



Inside

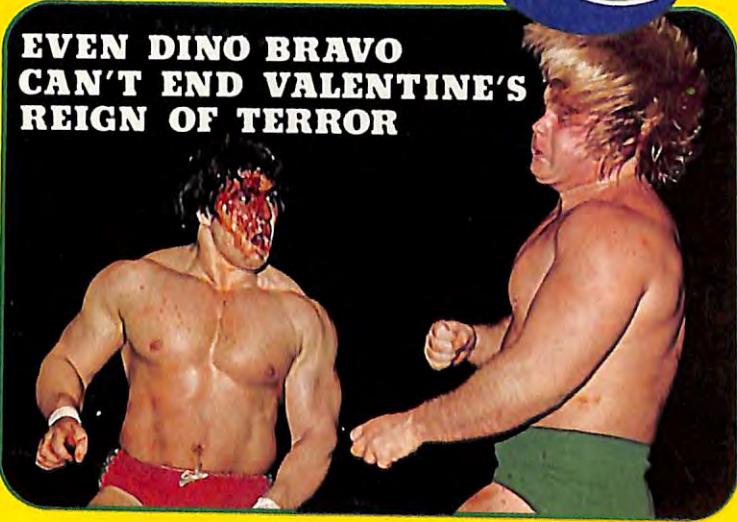
CHIEF JAY "I'VE LEARNED
STRONGBOW: HOW TO HATE"

Wrestling

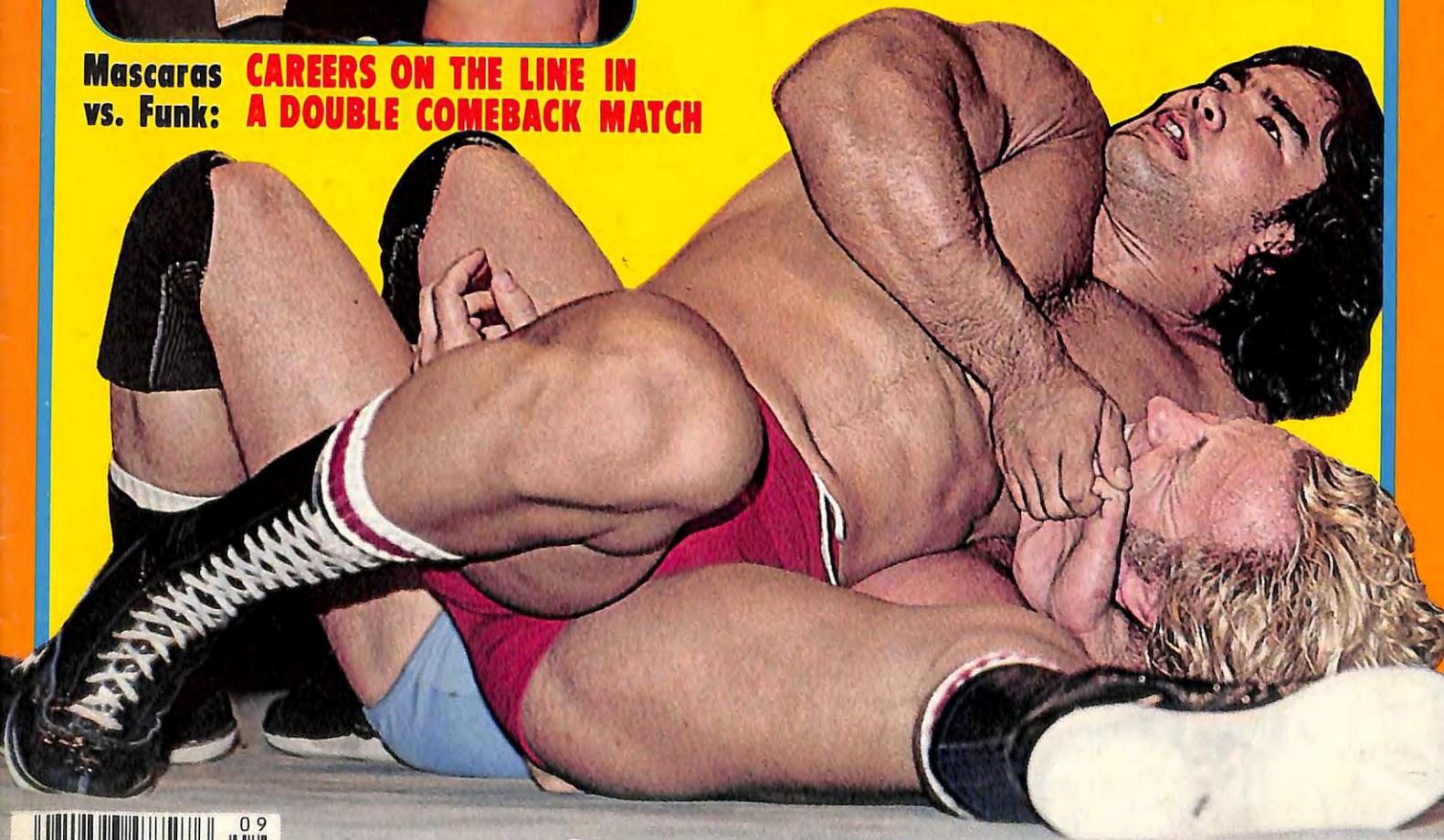
September 1979
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EVEN DINO BRAVO
CAN'T END VALENTINE'S
REIGN OF TERROR



Mascaras vs. Funk: CAREERS ON THE LINE IN
A DOUBLE COMEBACK MATCH



09
Steamboat vs. Bockwinkel:
HOW RICK STEAMBOAT WAS ROBBED
OF THE AWA TITLE



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you like to gross \$14 or

a true story

own business was so much easier than I had always thought . . . why the day to day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

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It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a **serious** mistake not mailing that coupon would have been . . . and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, con-

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence . . . and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my

step by step thriving business

present job, would \$21 profit per hour?

by Bob Ferrel

ventions and dealer group meetings.

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success.

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Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. An efficient Duraclean dealer can gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service he himself renders. The 24 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes **clear net profit**. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

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We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see the way we show you **step by step** how to quickly get customers... and still more customers from their recommendations.

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Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers... revives dull colors. Pile rises with **new life**. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are **growing faster** than industries and stores... \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your **6 other services** are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

Only \$1985 starts you in **YOUR OWN** business. And we have enough confidence in your success that we finance the balance of the total cost of \$5900, with no interest or finance charges.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with **no obligation** whatever, mail the coupon **TODAY**. Cut it out **NOW** so you won't forget to mail it.

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INSIDE

Wrestling

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"Look who's smiling now!"

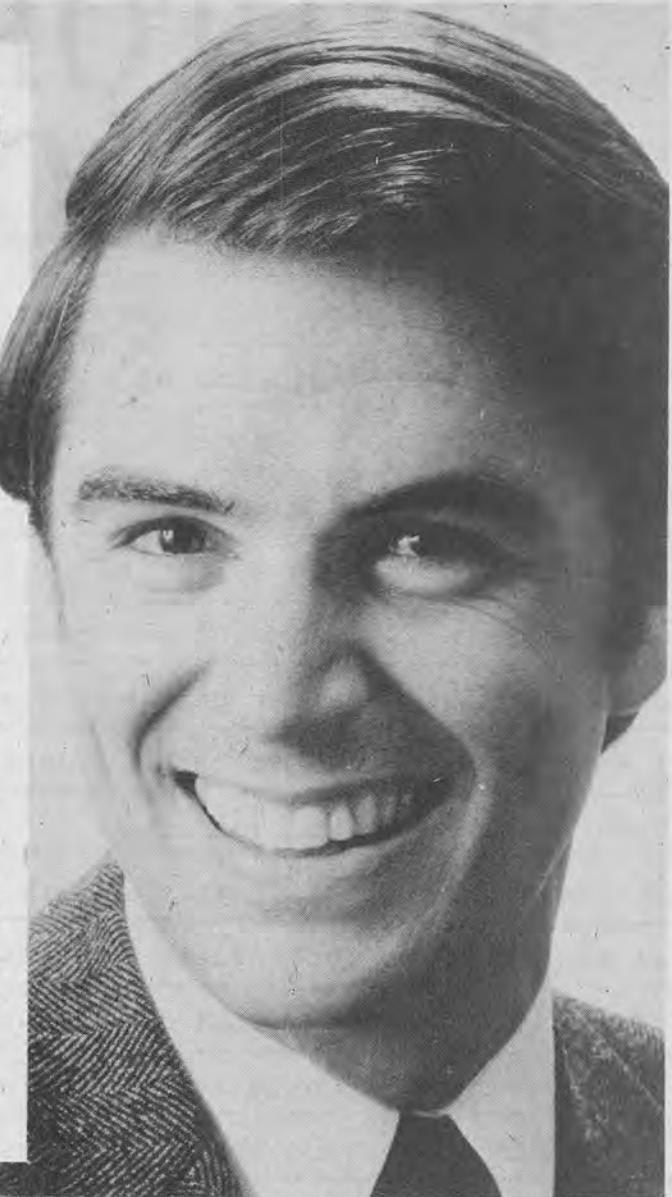
Sometimes a man sets his ambitions high enough to make skeptics smile. But how often he gets the last laugh! One of LaSalle's more successful graduates writes: "I now have my own accounting firm and make several times my former salary. My thanks to LaSalle."

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter
King

Editor-in-Chief

Spending an afternoon with Greg Valentine is enough to make a wrestling journalist wish he was in another line of work. Or at least unemployed. There's something so hateful about this cruel young man, it's almost unnatural.

My afternoon with Valentine included a walk through New York's Central Park. I had hoped the country-like surroundings in the middle of the world's busiest city would have a calming effect on Greg. Now I know better. I don't think a personal audience with the Pope would have a calming effect on him.

After a brief visit to the park zoo (where Valentine threw pebbles at the smaller, defenseless animals) we sat on a park bench overlooking the lake. Greg looked out to the water, a cruel smirk on his otherwise handsome face. I could sense this was going to be a bad interview.

My first question was an obvious one. I asked Valentine if he was sorry he had broken Jay Strongbow's leg. All my years in wrestling journalism could not prepare me for what happened next.

"Sorry?!" he screamed, his face turning red with rage. "Sorry? I'm only sorry about one thing. That the damn savage recovered! I wish the SOB had died!" He tried to regain his composure by throwing a rock at a squirrel.

I sat there stupidly. I had never heard one athlete talk this way about another. I had enough for one day. There was nothing this vile rulebreaker could tell me which I cared to hear.

"Greg," I said, "I think the interview is over. Thanks." I picked up my pad and pen and left. After walking about 50 feet, I turned to see Valentine trying to strangle a poor pigeon.

I think there's something seriously wrong with Greg Valentine.

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Body Slams & Pinfalls

By Dan
Shocket

EVERY SO OFTEN, just to prove not all wrestling fans have the mentality of a retarded gibbon, I receive a letter of wit and imagination. Recently, I've gotten more than a few of these fascinating letters. One especially stands out.

Two young men from the Bronx suggested Lou Albano guide a tag team consisting of Bulldog Brower and George Steele. What a magnificent combination! No two men wrestle with more reckless brilliance than Brower and Steele. And only the genius of Albano could harness that recklessness into a finely tuned tag team. As any correspondent said, "Never before have the moronic fans in the WWF seen the greatness these two men represent."

I contacted Lou Albano and relayed the suggestion. There was a moment of silence. Albano was thinking; one could almost feel it through the receiver.

"It could be the greatest tag team in history," Lou said with a surprising lack of enthusiasm. "And it could be the biggest disaster in wrestling history. Brower and Steele would have to promise to obey me, and I'm not sure they'd do that to anyone. And I'm not sure I'd believe them

even if they did promise. It would be the biggest challenge of my career." Then Albano paused, laughed, and concluded. "What's the fun of life if there aren't any challenges?"

If everything worked well, how long would it take for the tag team to be formed?

making a tag team work. First, I have to study each wrestler separately. Then I choose which moves each man has that would work well with the other. Then I examine those moves and make up my strategies. After all that work is done, I get the wrestlers into a gym. Then I see if the



Lou Albano wants Bulldog Brower and George Steele to whip Jay Strongbow.

"It might take as long as a year," Lou declared. One could tell by the distance in his voice he was already devising strategies. "And that's if everything works well. I could abandon the whole idea within a month. People don't realize what goes in to

strategies work.

"With Steele and Brower, that could take forever. Who knows if those guys could ever be a team? Part of the job would be making sure they wouldn't attack each other!"

(Continued on page 46)

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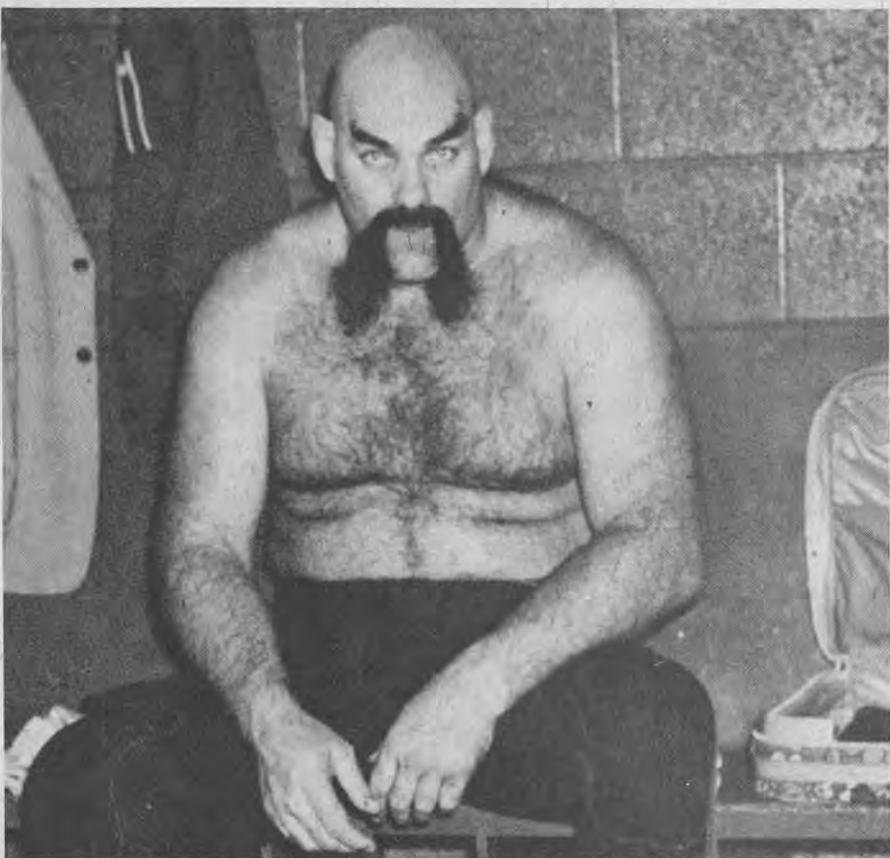
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The Ox seems to be in a pensive mood in his dressing room. Baker, a long-time rulebreaker, has declared war on the family of Sonny King. The wild Florida manager hurt Baker when he refused to meet Ox's demands for more money. Baker used to wrestle in King's family. Now he despises Sonny.

THE SINISTER BLACK moustache is the same. So are the drooping, piercing dark eyes and the full, menaceful lips. This portrait of ferocity has never varied in Ox Baker's controversial wrestling career.

Until now. To a degree, anyway.

We sat and talked over many cups of coffee, steam twisting into the air-conditioned atmosphere of a south Florida diner. I'd read how Baker was taking on Sonny King's family. Amazed, I called a reliable source who often attends matches in the area.

Breathlessly, my source, who goes by the cover name of "T.G. Nathan," told me how bewildered Florida fans were by Baker's assaults on the hated King family. If the fans were bewildered, imagine how Sonny King must feel.

If there was ever a man sculptured and pre-packaged for admittance into King's evil

group, it is Ox Baker. He has made a reputation by eating up men who obeyed the laws of scientific wrestling.

Now he was launching attack after attack upon Sonny King and his family. What's the story, Ox?

"Before you get all twisted and bent out of shape, Randy, I want you to know . . ."

"I'm Morgy. Not Randy."

"Ain't you the twerp who's always pulling tricks on guys?" Baker asked.

"No, didn't our secretary tell you my name when she made the appointment?" I asked.

"Nope," Baker shrugged. "Doesn't matter. I want my side of the story told. I want everyone in wrestling to know what a low-down lying cheat Sonny King and his men are."

I gestured encouragement. That was all Baker needed to launch into a rambling

(Continued on page 48)

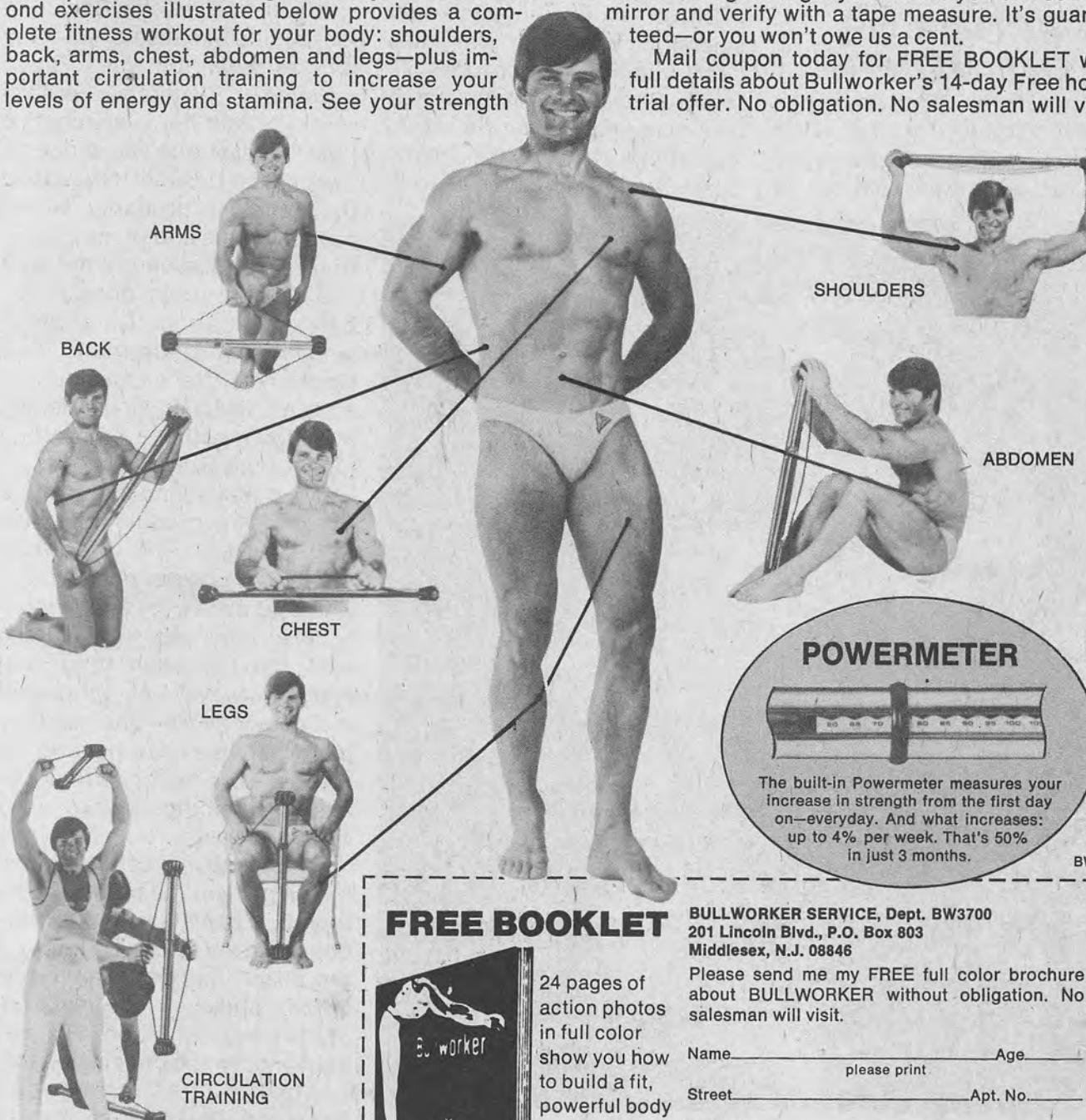
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THE INSIDER

By STEVEN FARHOOD

SCOOP OF THE MONTH

Dino Bravo will not challenge Bob Backlund for the WWF championship because a gypsy fortune teller advised him not to!

Bravo, an exciting, talented scientific wrestling star, has been mentioned as a possible foe for Backlund. But the match will most likely never be made. Something in Bravo's palms upset Bravo's gypsy advisor.

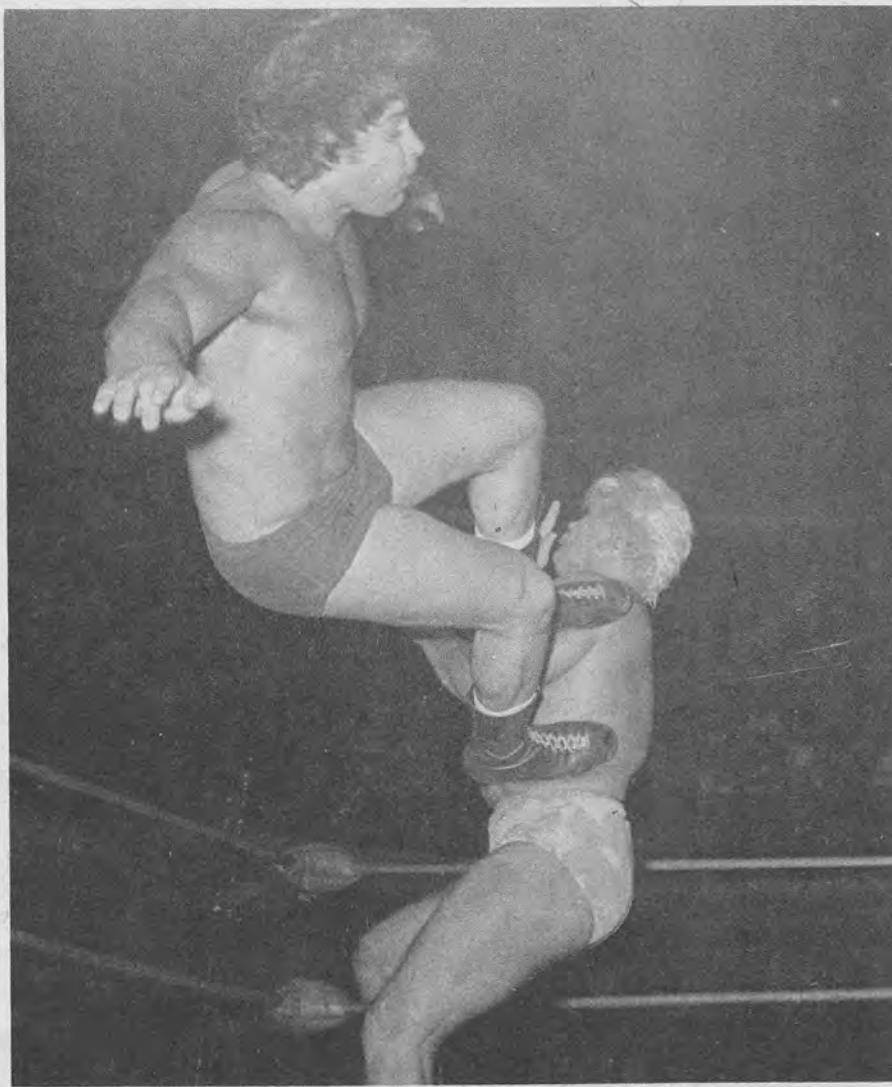
"I will not wrestle Backlund for the title because of what my fortune teller told me," Bravo revealed. "I attend private sessions with her every chance I get. My last one was a doozy. Thank God I visited! If I wrestled Backlund, it probably would have been the end of my career. And maybe the end of my life!"

But what could possibly be dangerous about Dino Bravo wrestling his good friend, Bob Backlund? After all, Backlund is a clean wrestler, a gentleman and a sympathetic man. What harm could Bravo face?

"My gypsy friend (her name is Eva, but Bravo would not reveal her address or telephone number) has never been wrong. She told me a year ago I would win a championship (Bravo won the Canadian title), and she has always been right about my personal life. She read my palm last time I saw her and the results made her cry. When she stopped sobbing, she explained what she saw.

"Apparently, a certain line in the palm, near the bottom of the thumb, revealed a terrible danger in my future. By locating the exact line and examining its length, and by being aware of my present condition, Eva was able to draw the conclusion that I should not challenge Backlund. She told me that if I did, my health could be in danger.

(Continued on page 56)



Dino Bravo exhibits his fine, classic form with a perfect flying dropkick. Bravo attends sessions with a gypsy fortune teller. The woman, named Eva, told Bravo not to challenge Bob Backlund for the WWF title.

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ALI WINS HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE
February 1964

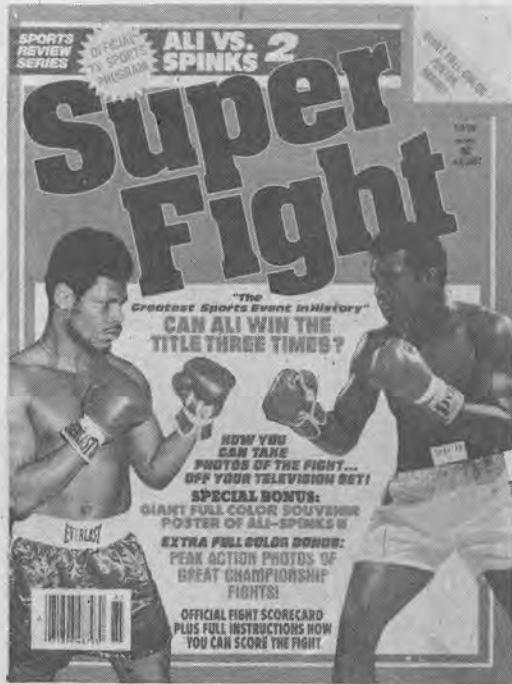
ALI REGAINS HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE
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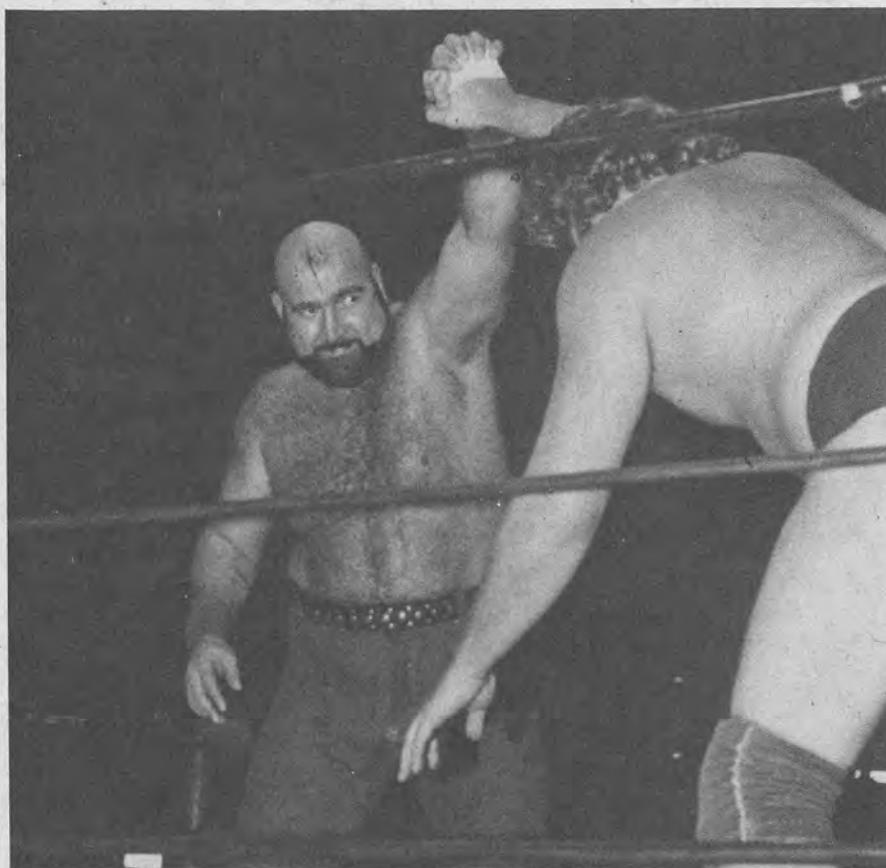
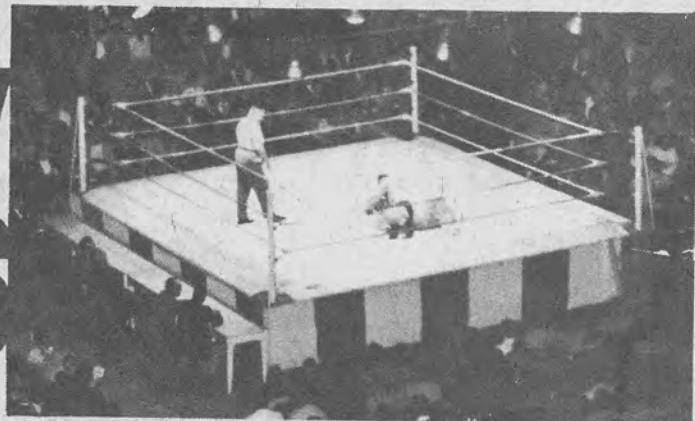
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A TIDE OF SHAME

A tide of shame and despair has descended over Florida wrestling. All of this comes from Sonny King and his entourage of vicious rulebreakers.

The role call of his "family" grows longer every week. He has perverted the careers of Jos LeDuc and Don Muraco beyond forgiveness or redemption.

His people have been responsible for terrible and

painful injuries to many scientific wrestlers. Noteworthy victims are Steve Keirn, Jack Brisco and Dusty Rhodes.

Sonny King has accomplished that which only Bobby Heenan may claim. If you doubt the seriousness of what I say, ask Gordon Solie to recount to you some of the treacherous acts King is responsible for.

GARY NEAL
Homestead AFB, Fla.

SINCERELY STUPID?

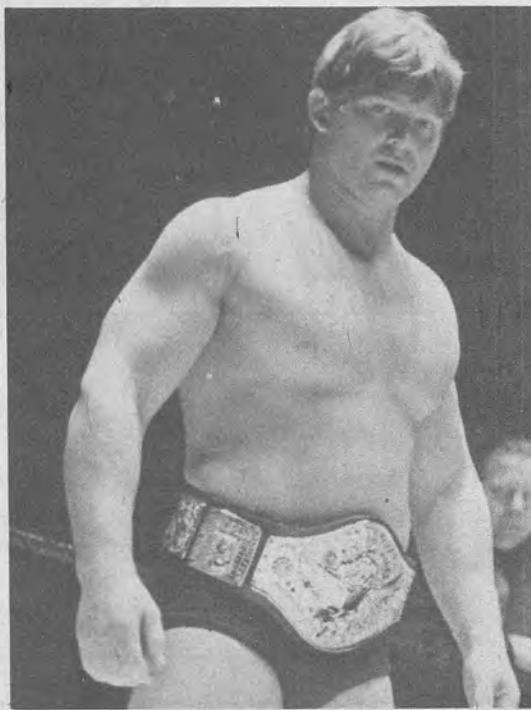
Why in the world are you people always putting a low rate on guys like Bob Backlund and Rick Steamboat?

Time and time again you write articles against these young lions. This junk needs to be stopped.

If you can't say something good about these men, you need not say a thing at all.

DONALD STEEN
Hamlet, N.C.

Jos Leduc was a scientific star when he battled Dick Slater (left). But he now resides in Sonny King's family of rulebreakers. One reader wants us to stop knocking Bob Backlund (below).





LEAVE VALENTINE ALONE

Why are you people trying to get rid of Greg Valentine? People that wrestle Bob Backlund get the "atomic spinebreaker." People that wrestle Ivan Putski receive the infamous "Polish Hammer." People that wrestle Jay Strongbow get a "sleeperhold." People that wrestle Stan Hansen get the "lariat." And people that wrestle Greg Valentine get the "figure four leglock."

The wrestlers know Greg has a tendency to break a few legs. If they know all this, why do they sign for a match? They're risking their own legs. So leave Greg Valentine alone.

MIKE BROWN
Seaford, N.Y.

II HAS RIGHTS TOO!

After reading "Has Mr. Wrestling II Deserted His Fans?" (May 1979), all I can say is this: LET THE MAN ALONE!!!

Who do these Georgia fans think they are? All they're doing is standing in the way

of II's opportunity to broaden his wrestling horizons.

New Orleans and Oklahoma City are waiting for II, and you self-centered imbeciles in Georgia act as though you own the man. Well, you don't.

A man has got to be free. II wants to expand his horizons, but you Georgians won't give him half a chance. Mr. Wrestling II *should* broaden his horizons. He *needs* new competition. What good is it if he's stuck in Georgia forever?

II *needs* expansion. And I think it's totally asinine to deny him that. II has just as much of a right to wrestle in other areas as anyone else.

ADRIAN JOHNSON
Greensboro, N.C.

Mike Brown of Seaford, New York, tells us to leave Greg Valentine alone. Greg (above left) has dominated the WWF in recent matches. Gordon Solie interviews Mr. Wrestling II (below).



GREAT GORDON SOLIE

I wonder how many wrestling fans appreciate the professionalism and brilliance of announcer Gordon Solie. Consistently, Solie demonstrates his unerring knack for diplomacy and piercing journalistic integrity.

He's never intimidated by

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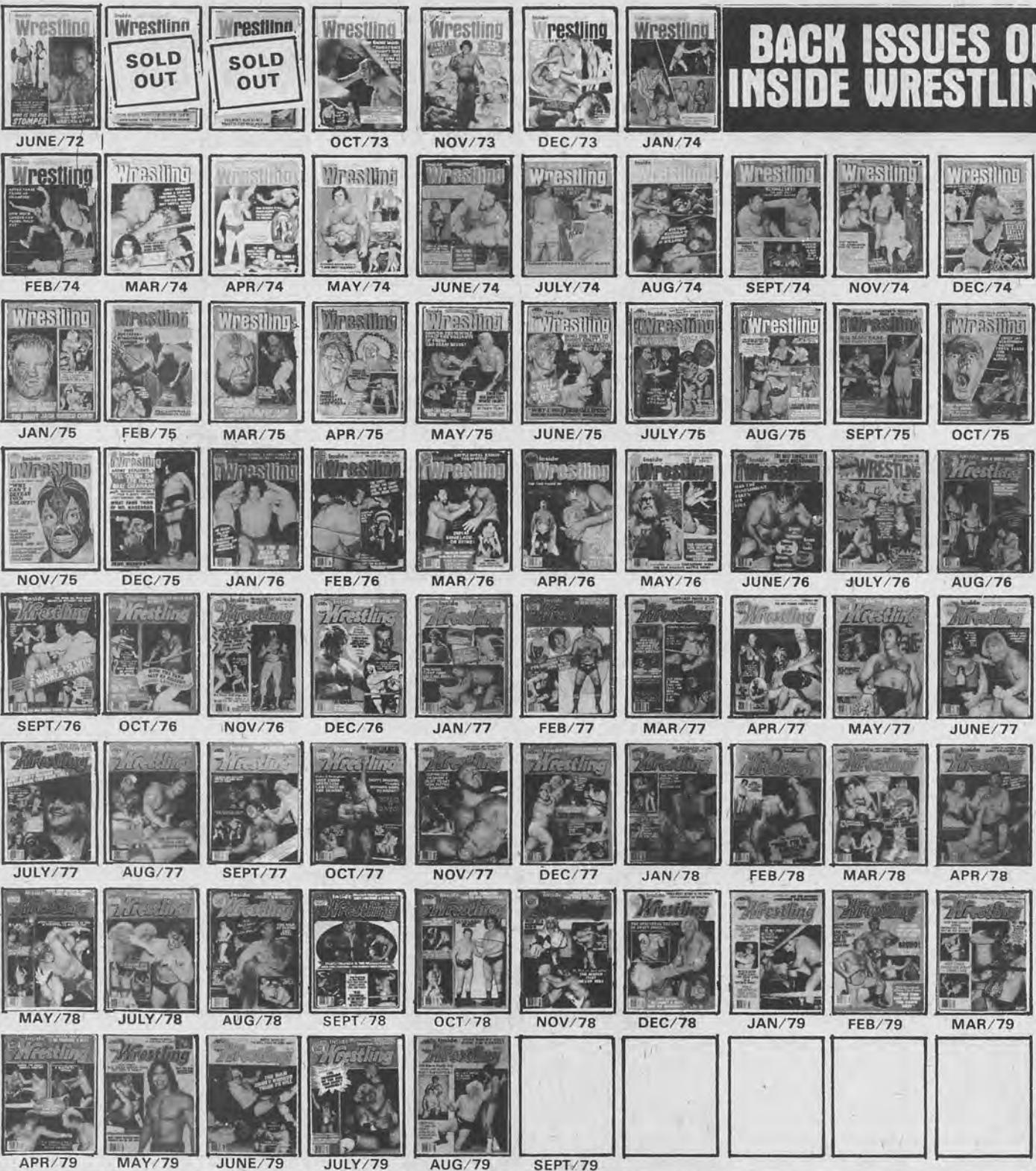
wrestlers, nor does he bend over backward to kiss the butts of some of the bigger names. He is as polite with the rulebreakers as he is with scientific wrestlers.

Many sportscasters let their peculiar personalities interfere with their job, which is telling their audience what is happening and offering a first-hand knowledgeable commentary.

Solie is first-class all the way.

SHIRLEY BAILEY
Pompano Beach, Fla. □

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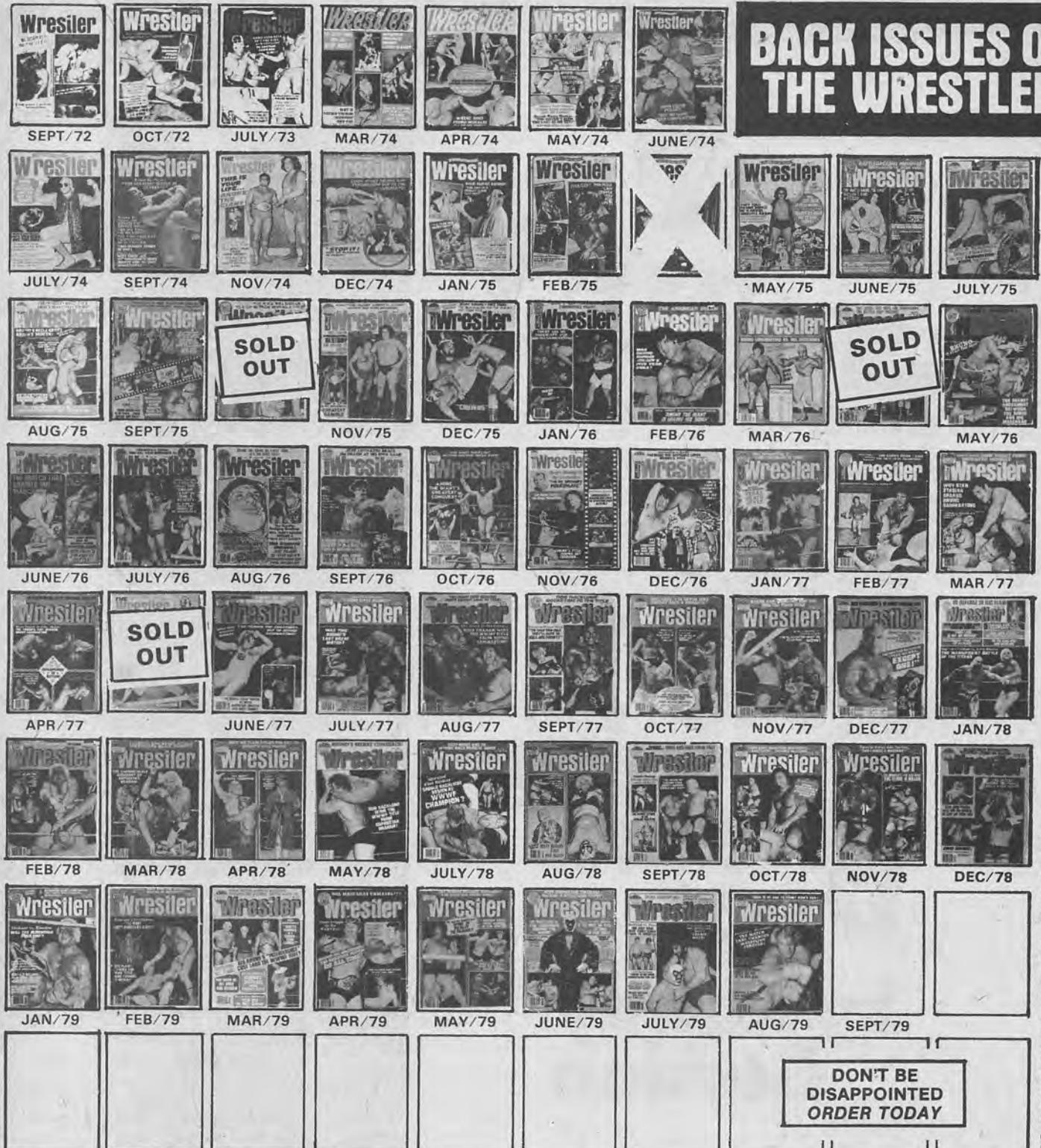
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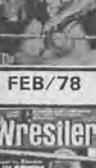
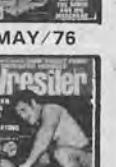
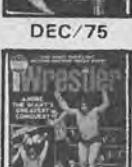
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'TOP SECRET'

Behind the Dressing Room Door

by Randy
Gordon

"I LOVE RULEBREAKERS!"
At our monthly meeting last week, my three words left Dan Shocket open-mouthed, Peter King stunned and Steve Farhood and Gary Morgenstein ashen-faced. A nervous cough wracked Bill Apter's body. And the usually outspoken Matt Brock began to stammer in search of the words to express his amazement at my statement.

What about you? I am sure you are finding my announcement incredible as well. Hear my words again: "I LOVE RULEBREAKERS!" Shocking, huh?

But wait. Don't slam this magazine shut, devoted wrestling fans, legions of "Randy's Raiders," haters of rulebreakers, detesters of Dan Shocket and upholders of justice. I have not gone the turncoat route of Paul Jones, Chief Peter Maivia and other lowlife scoundrels. I am embarking on an experiment. I may have the results as early as next month.

Since I began my crusade against rulebreakers several years ago, tens of thousands of fans have written to tell me they are completely behind me. They believe in what I am doing. Very few letters have knocked my actions.

In comparison, Dan Shocket, who blindly protects rulebreakers, receives plenty of hate mail. He deserves it. He is a one-sided journalist. With Dan, the truth is hidden

(Continued on page 58)

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NAMES MAKI

A lawsuit has been filed by IVAN PUTSKI against officials of the World Wrestling Federation, regarding Ivan's televised match against BULLDOG BROWER. Video-tape replays support Putski's claim that he was tripped by Brower's manager, CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO, allowing Brower to successfully bodypress him. Putski wants the record books to state that he



IVAN PUTSKI

did not lose. His lawyers are helping him prove the point. Albano claims, "The tape was touched up. It made me look like I tripped that Kielbasa brain. I wasn't even in the arena during that match. I wasn't anywhere, daddy. The Captain was somewhere in the stratosphere!"

Recovering from a serious injury he sustained during a sneak-attack by KILLER KAHN, JACK BRISCO is anxious to get revenge... RIC FLAIR signed to defend his United States



JACK BRISCO

championship in Florida several times this year... KEN PATERA says he is fed up with defeating RICK STEAMBOAT night after night, match after match... FRED BLASSIE is trying to settle the major problems he is having with protege' VICTOR RIVERA. Rivera is on the road back to becoming a scientific wrestler. WWF North American cham-



TED DiBIASE

pion TED DiBIASE keeps active in NWA areas. His recent clash against DICK MURDOCH in St. Louis was a classic. Fans who like Murdoch should take note that he wrestles against the rulebook in Missouri... Bad news for rooters of BLACK-JACK MULLIGAN. The big man from Texas may be back to rulebreaking again... EDDY MANSFIELD is headed for Georgia. But he is still a force in California. He still wrestles on the coast several times a week.

BUDDY ROGERS made SONNY KING take the "ten count" in a boxer vs. wrestler confrontation. Rogers is undefeated in such matches... TOMMY RICH is negotiating with promoters in New Orleans regarding a tag team pairing with his good friend, MR. WRESTLING II... Georgia heavyweight champion WAHOO



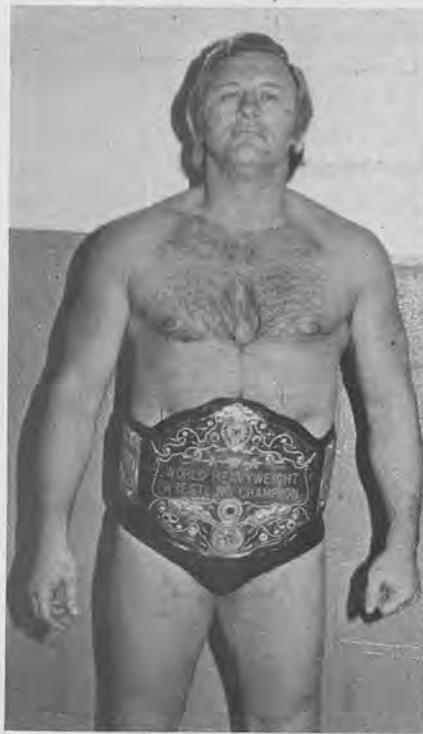
TOMMY RICH

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

McDANIEL has lost 10 pounds since he won the belt. He says he never felt better. "I can see myself holding the title forever," he says . . . SUPERSTAR BILLY GRAHAM is in training for what he calls "the match of my life." He refuses to give any further details.

Has VERNE GAGNE lost the urge to regain the AWA belt? "Not so!" said Verne, during an exclusive interview with this columnist. "The title that is currently held by NICK BOCKWINDEL will always be the most important thing in my



NICK BOCKWINDEL

life. I must get it back." . . . Meanwhile, Verne's son, GREG GAGNE, also desires the title . . . JIM BRUNZELL is wrestling in the Mid-Atlantic area. He is not certain how long he will stay. "I still have many AWA commitments," he says.

A newcomer to the WWF

area, TITO SANTANA is thrilling the fans with his high-flying tactics. Tito is a top prospect for WWF Rookie of the Year honors . . . The GREG VALENTINE-CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW feud continues without an end in sight . . . MIL MASCARAS signed for a match against DORY FUNK JR. in Texas . . . BRUNO SAMMARTINO says his proposed match against WWF champion BOB BACKLUND remains on the drawing boards.

NWA champion HARLEY RACE claims that it is a complete waste of his time to



HARLEY RACE

wrestle any member of the VON ERICH FAMILY. "There is more talent in my left pinky than there is in that entire family," Harley boasts . . . THE GRAND WIZARD says his next protege' to challenge for the WWF title will be a man no one can stop. "He's the wildest human being in the entire world," says Wiz . . . "Big Cat" ERNIE LADD is still warring with TONY ATLAS.



MIGHTY IGOR

Atlas keeps demanding more matches against Ladd, hoping for a clear-cut victory.

EL HALCON is the name of a masked Mexican wrestler who is becoming popular in Texas . . . MIGHTY IGOR is headed to the "Lone Star" state . . . MASKED ASSASSIN is the target of BUCK ROBLEY. The rulebreaker broke a chair over Robley's head when Buck was wrestling someone else! . . . MIKE GEORGE refuses to give JERRY STUBBS a shot at the Louisiana championship. George is the man who beat Stubbs for the belt in a highly controversial bout . . . ANGELO MOSCA is whipping all competition in New Orleans.

Late bulletin: STEVE KEIRN hopped into the ring during a PAK SONG-DON SERRANO match and trapped Song's leg on the ropes. Keirn stomped on the leg and a fracture resulted. Revenge at last!

That's all for now. See you next month. □

HOTSEAT

CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW: “I’VE LEARNED HOW TO HATE”

WHEN HE FIRST entered the pro ranks, bouquets of praise were laid at his feet. Experts predicted superstardom. Foes accorded grudging praise. Fans adored his ferocious Indian style. In many ways, he has fulfilled those hopes through his glorious career. But a change has occurred since that brutal crippling he suffered at the hands of Greg Valentine. Whenever Valentine's name is mentioned he fills with rage. But he is still a wrestling gentleman. He is still a fan favorite. But he has changed. He is Chief Jay Strongbow.

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED
BY DAN SHOCKET

Q: Well, Chief, welcome aboard.
A: Thank you, Dan. I hope it won't get too hostile here.
Q: Not at all, not at all. Let's start things, shall we?
A: Yeah.
Q: What do you think of Greg Valentine?
A: Valentine, Valentine.
Q: Yes, Valentine. Remember him? The man who . . .
A: Broke my leg. I have never hated anyone as much as I

hate Greg Valentine. He is everything I hate about wrestling. He is everything I hate about life. I want him crushed into little pieces.

Q: I've never heard such venom from you.
A: That's because I've never felt this way before.
Q: Why? Valentine hasn't done anything to you.
A: What!! He purposefully broke my leg. He purposefully hurts people. He is a disgrace to wrestling. He is like the plague, which must be wiped out. I will never rest until Valentine is banished.

Q: You are bitter, Chief?
A: After many years, I have learned how to hate.
Q: Do you like it?
A: No, but it's necessary.
Q: Explain, please.
A: I, I am afraid how it will look in print.
Q: Sir, we are journalists. It's our duty to print the truth.
A: You don't.
Q: Sir, my morality is not at stake here.
A: Mine is?
Q: Many fans wonder about you since Valentine snapped your leg.
A: Broke it.
Q: Whatever.
A: Then I will answer you. Too often a wrestler is too nice for his own good. He allows himself to be betrayed and taken advantage of because he's too trusting. But after so many attacks you wise up. You grow up and see who your real friends are. And who your real enemies are.
Q: Who are your real friends?
A: Not as many as I once had.
Q: The ones who are left, then.
A: Well, Bruno Sammartino, of course. He's been a pillar of

“

I have never hated anyone as much as I hate Greg Valentine. He is everything I hate about wrestling. He is everything I hate about life. I want him crushed into little pieces.

”





“

They (managers Albano, Blassie and Grand Wizard) twist and pervert and warp the souls of everything they touch.

”



Chief Jay Strongbow has remained a dedicated scientific wrestler for many years. He can apply intricate maneuvers with delicate perfection (above against Nikolai Volkoff) or brawl and kick his way to victory (below against Spiros Arion). Greg Valentine is currently Strongbow's chief rival.



strength during my feud with Valentine. Then there's Andre the Giant, a real close friend. And several others.

Q: And your real enemies?
A: Valentine. The Valiant Brothers. Actually, anyone who's associated with Lou Albano, Fred Blassie, or the Grand Wizard.

Q: You have it in for those managers, don't you?

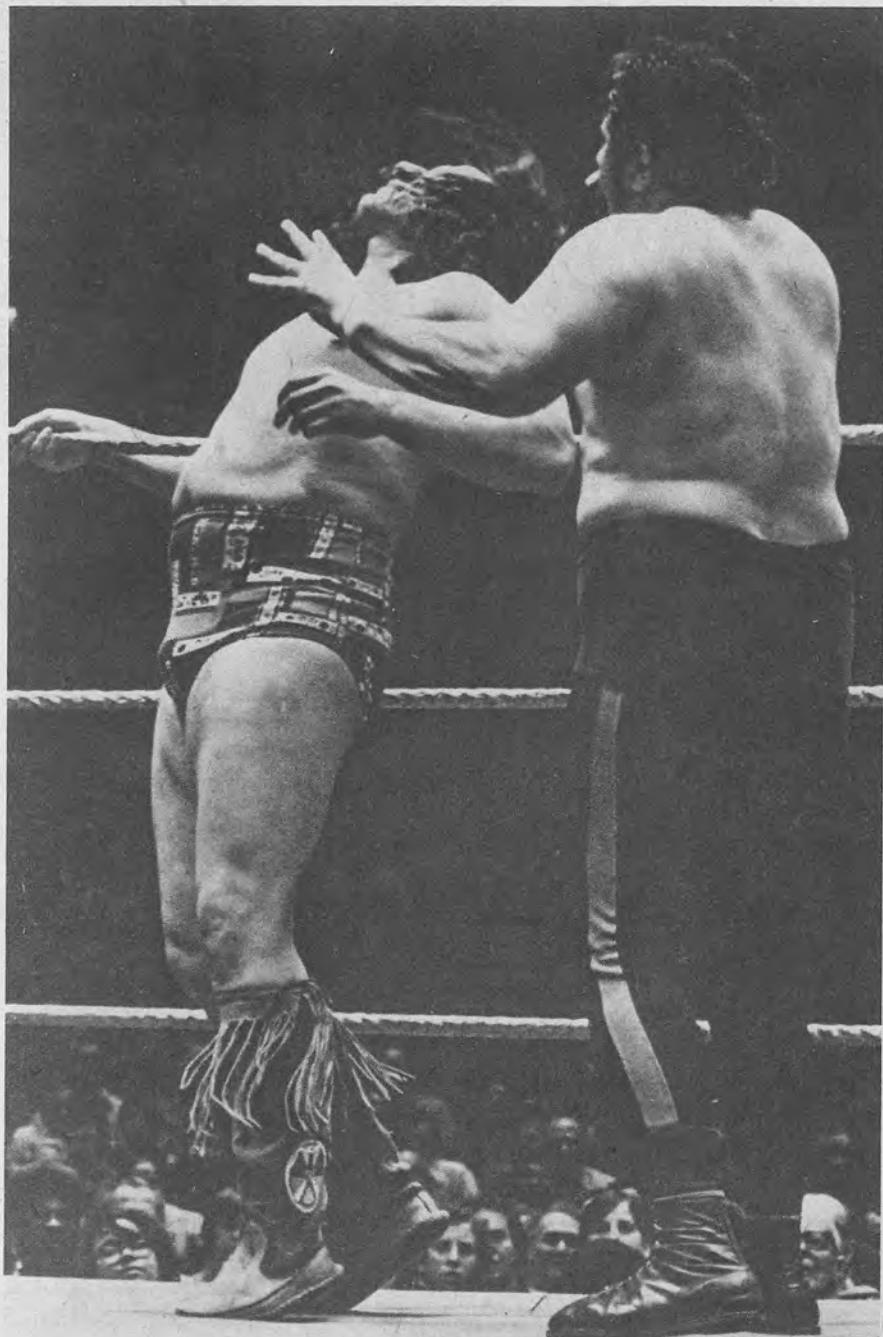
A: They twist and pervert and warp the souls of everything they touch. They're like maggots which feed on human flesh, gnawing and eating and swallowing all that is healthy, leaving only the black skin and rotting bones.

Q: My, that is graphic.
A: That's how I feel. You want the truth, come to me.
Q: Has your philosophy really changed?
A: Somewhat. More in the way I

look at things. It's still Chief Jay Strongbow. I still believe in all the things I used to and I still have the same ideals. But along the way, I've gained a little more caution and added some new rivalries.

Q: Can you ever go back to the

way you were?
A: No, that's impossible.
Q: Why?
A: Because you can never be quite as innocent as you were in the beginning. That first treachery by a friend, the first time someone tries to



Strongbow has faced devious rule-breaking manager Louis Albano in the squared circle (above). The Chief is at his best when he begins his famous war dance (right). He is a fan favorite.

ruin your career. Heck, once you get gashed by that, there's no turning back. It's up to you about the future.

Q: Where do you go from that point?

A: Some wrestlers go to pieces and are never heard from again. They don't have the inner courage to keep on going. Then there are guys who have that intestinal



“

I want to hold true to the principles of my people. Never would I betray a friend or the trust of the fans. That's unthinkable. But I will keep up my guard. No one will ever break my leg again.

”

fortitude and can recover. I think Bob Backlund is a good example of that. He was attacked by his friend, Maivia, and he is the target of every greedy wrestler in the WWF. Yet he keeps on going, tough as ever.

Q: Where does Strongbow go from here?

A: Not an easy answer.

Q: I don't ask easy questions.

A: Well, I want to hold true to the principles of my people. Never would I betray a friend or the trust of the fans. That's unthinkable. But I will keep up my guard. No one will ever break my leg again.

Q: Then an obsession has been added to the career of Chief Jay Strongbow?

A: Not an obsession. Just getting even.

Q: Thanks for coming on the Hotseat, Jay.



Matt Brock's PLAIN SPEAKING!

WINNIPEG, CANADA: Felt the first chill of autumn. Cured that quick enough. Managed to stay warm for several hours, took a nap and went over to the arena. Had a pre-match interview with Cowboy Bob Orton Jr., a real confused kid. Poor guy doesn't know which way is up, a condition I've often experienced. Since Heenan left, Orton has absorbed much of the latent hostility AWA people felt for Bobby the Brain. Surprising since Bockwinkel is as secure as ever. Have a gut feeling that Bockwinkel may end up with the longest title reign in wrestling history. Something so cunning about him, can't see anyone devising a method to stop him. But Orton doesn't know how he'll handle his future. Kid could use a smart manager to set his wheels right. Not a locomotive like Blassie or Albano, but a shrewd, tempered guide. Pity the AWA is too far away for Arnold Skoaland.



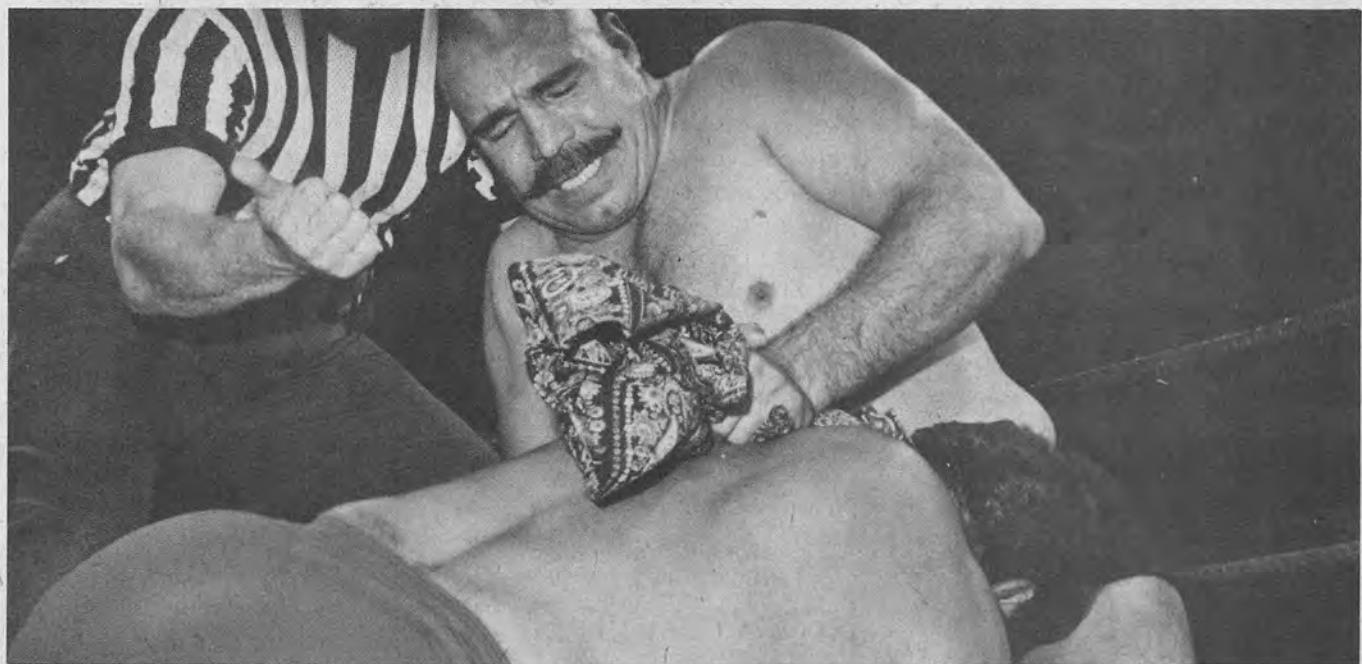
BRUISER BRODIE

AMARILLO, TEXAS: Supposed to go to San Francisco, but got on the wrong plane. So my bags are on some trolley and I'm sweating in Texas. Had to go out and buy a whole new wardrobe. Then found out my credit cards had expired. Left with \$20 to my name. Should have seen the outfit I had to buy. Red Bermuda shorts, powder blue shirt and yellow knee socks. I looked like Rudolph the Red-Nosed Rummy. Finally, I got my money flown in. Ate at this fast-food hamburger joint. Who walks in but Bruiser Brodie. Few gasps, couple of women fled, but basically they took him in stride. Except no one would fill his order. Not surprising since Brodie quickly gulped down nearly a dozen napkins. So Brodie sees me sitting over a burger (without fries since I'm down to three bucks and Happy Hour doesn't start for two hours), and trots over. Offers me his hand and I shake it. Think I just got fleas. I said I'd get him food if he lent me money and consented to a quick interview. Brodie nodded and stuck out his tongue, which I assumed meant yes. After I filled the order, Brodie digested it and left. So I have no story from here. But I do have a rash and fleas. The \$20 he lent me was Monopoly money.



COWBOY BOB ORTON JR.

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor



HUSSEIN ARAB

ATHENS, GA.: Was nearly re-united with bags in stopover at New Orleans. Just missed 'em. So I'm in Georgia and they're on a jumbo jet headed for Copenhagen. Did want to come here. Important story brewing. Seems that Hussein Arab of the WWF uses this pointy boot and claims it is an old Arab custom. Decided to check out authenticity of story. Visit Aban el-Araim, a distinguished gentleman of 75 who runs a used clock store here. Supposedly, el-Araim is an old wrestler who trains both Hussein and Abdullah the Butcher in the ancient arts of Arabic wrestling. I was greatly impressed. A nice, polite man of 6-5, 330 pounds. He explained the origin of the boot. Seems many nomadic tribes used a method of fighting called "trafe." Consists of warring with a broad, curved sword and feet. Since light shoes were the common mode of dress, warriors donned a heavier shoe when they went into battle. A warrior would slash downward with a sword. Once his enemy doubled over, the pointed boot would be thrust upward, finishing off the man. El-Araim indicated that some Arabic warriors dipped the point of their boots in poison. That'll give opponents of Abdullah, Hussein and The Sheik something else to think about.



ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

NEW YORK, N.Y.: Finally located my bags. Stickered with Copenhagen, London, and Sam's Famous Fried Chicken, city unknown. Bet they had more fun than I did. □

CAN ANYONE STOP Greg Valentine?

That is the question plaguing wrestling after Valentine's recent war against Dino Bravo. Like other men, Bravo entered the match supremely confident he could stop this deranged Valentine express.

"Valentine can be had," Bravo boasted.

Maybe so, but Bravo wasn't the one to do it. That doesn't detract from Bravo's vast skills. Instead, it almost compliments Dino's dedication to the ways of scientific wrestling.

Despite Valentine's gloating

taunts, Bravo stuck to his pre-bout strategy and tried to out-wrestle the fiendish blond.

"I wanted to show him what it was like wrestling a real man," Bravo said.

For the better part of the match, Bravo was successful. Using a wide range of maneuvers and combining speed and strength, Bravo controlled the bout.

"I thought I had him," Dino said.

Close, but not close enough. It was only a matter of time before Valentine's cruelty wore Bravo down. Not out, but down.

"He can't keep up with me," Valentine bragged. "Mortals can't

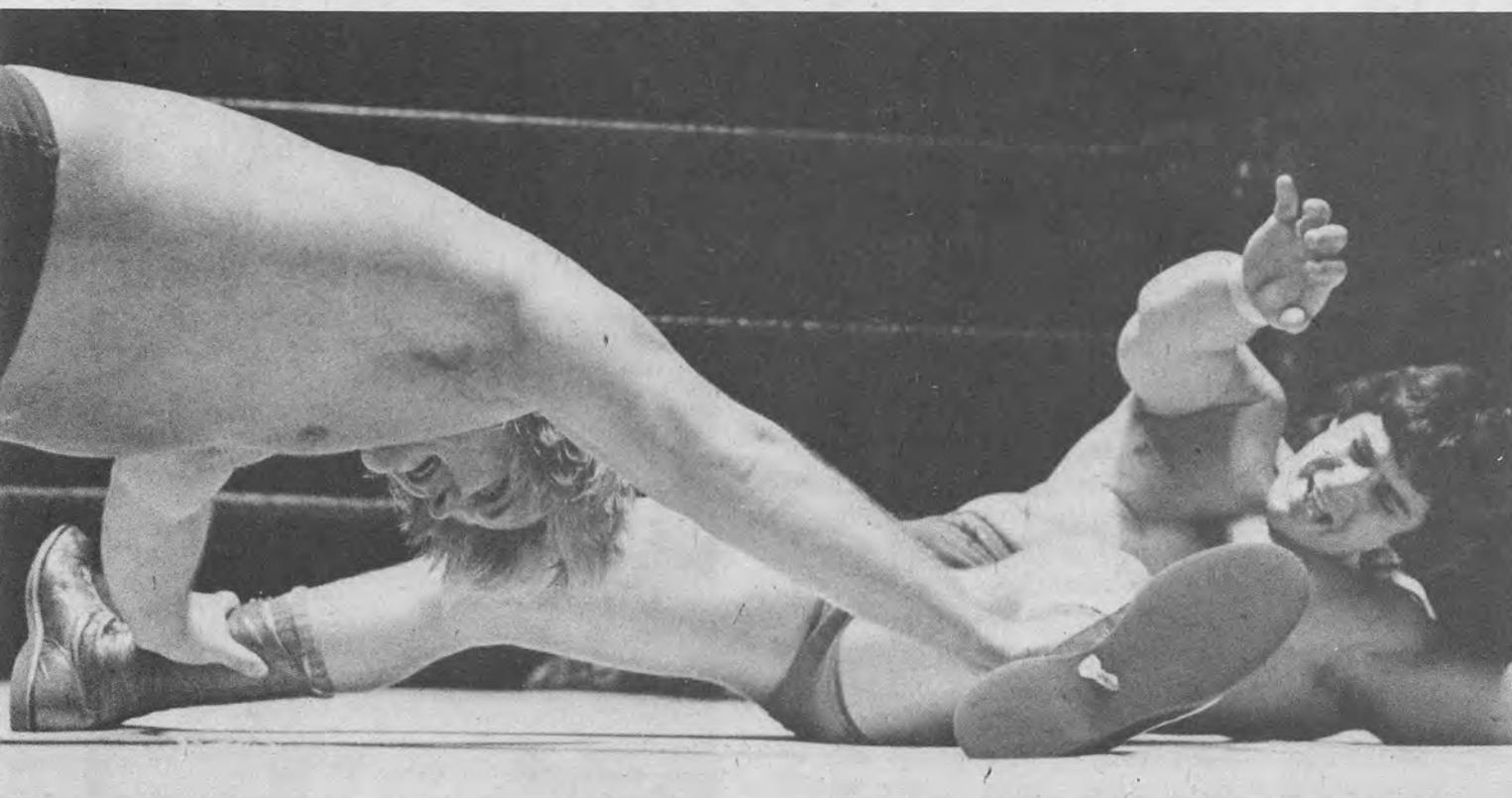
wrestle with a superman. Don't they realize that?"

Bravo was uninformed. He tried to re-route the match onto a cleaner sphere. It was an impossible task with Valentine as the opposition. Valentine's treachery undermined Bravo's formidable plan.

"Everything I did had an expected counter-move," said Bravo. "It's kind of like chess. But Valentine doesn't wrestle cleanly."

"For example, I put an armlock on Valentine. Instead of responding by easing out of the hold, he jabbed me in the groin," Bravo continued.

EVEN DINO BRAVO



CAN'T END VALENTINE'S REIGN OF TERROR

"What can you do after that?" Indeed, what can the entire WWF do after this match? Bravo is one of the federation's top talents. With an artful array of maneuvers and overpowering physical equipment, Bravo seemed a good bet to topple Valentine.

Besides, Bravo has an explosive temper and an ability to brawl when necessary. Add all that up and it should have spelled the end for Valentine's reign.

After trying to break Bravo's leg with a figure-four leglock, Valentine was disqualified. He was not defeated, not punished or taught a lesson. His arrogance simply increased.

"That's the best?" Valentine giggled. "Oh, I thought Backlund was the best." Another giggle. "Or Strongbow. Hey, how is the gimp?" Fragmented, nervous laughter accompanied his speech.

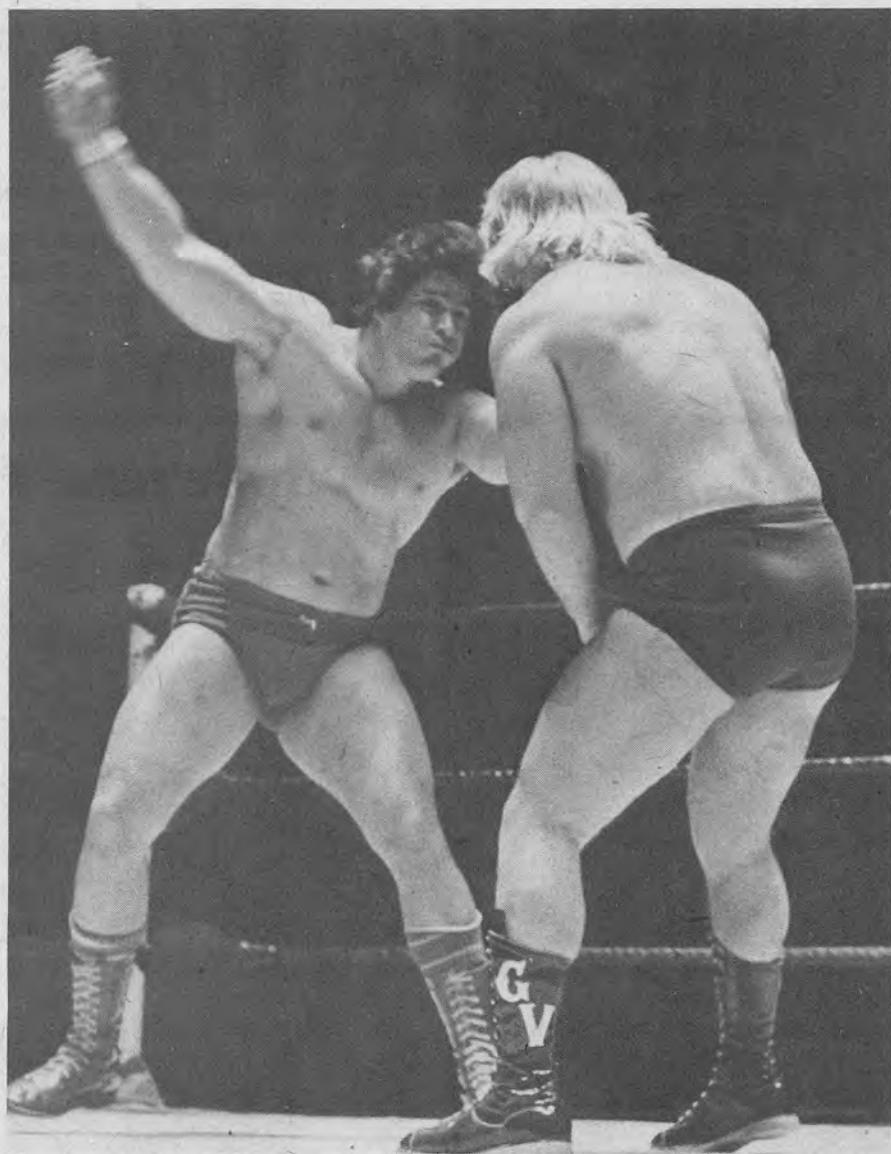
Valentine sneers at the WWF. Despite feverish attempts to sidetrack the hated blond, all efforts have been failures. Some have even ended in tragedy.

Like Chief Jay Strongbow.

"He taught me the true meaning of hatred," Strongbow said after Valentine broke his limb in a figure-four leglock.

(Continued on page 50)

Greg Valentine has roamed across the face of wrestling, a whirlwind of brutality destroying all in his evil path. Dino Bravo, a righteous individual, suddenly stood upright, a symbol of wrestling decency. But Bravo learned that ending Valentine's reign of terror may be too much for one man to handle.



Dino Bravo tries to stop the Greg Valentine juggernaut by brawling with the ruthless rulebreaker (above), but he is unsuccessful. Valentine recovers to punish Bravo on the mat (below). As usual, Valentine works on Bravo's legs (opposite page). Can anyone stop Valentine? Dino Bravo failed.



NEWS FROM THE

If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did!

Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571.

APR MAY '79

COLUMBUS, GA.

By Kim Lamberth



WAHOO McDANIEL
vs.
MASKED SUPERSTAR



One of Georgia's all-time favorite wrestlers, Chief Wahoo McDaniel, pulled off the upset of the century as he broke Masked Superstar's dreaded cobra hold, rolled him into a tight inside cradle and triumphed to become the new Georgia heavyweight champion.

OTHER BOUTS: Mr. Wrestling II teamed with Tim "Mr. Wrestling" Woods to stop the rugged tag team of Ole Anderson and Ivan Koloff by disqualification . . . Bob Armstrong and Tommy Rich downed Ron Bass and Eddy Mansfield.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

By Larry Duggan



KEN PATERA
vs.
DINO BRAVO



The main event was for the Mid-Atlantic title. Champion Ken Patera against challenger Dino Bravo. The match stayed within scientific bounds, with Bravo in control. Then Patera employed his fearsome bearhug. That forced both men out of the ring, where they were counted out.

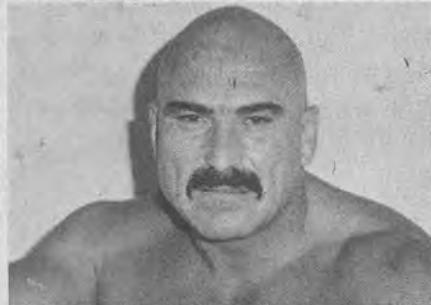
OTHER BOUTS: Ernie Ladd used a foreign object to bump Tony Atlas . . . Gene Anderson and Moose Morowski halted Abe Jacobs and Don Kernodle.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

By David Horner



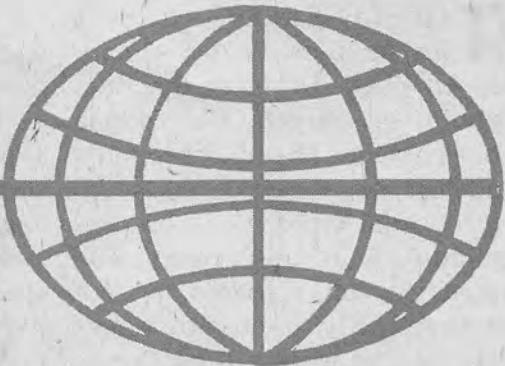
ROBERT FULLER
vs.
MONGOLIAN STOMPER



A \$17,500 van was the prize. Robert Fuller and the Mongolian Stomper were the final protagonists. Bloodshed was the referee. Stomper used every foul trick he ever learned, and then some. Fuller suffered severe cuts and was drowning in his own blood. Then the crowd started chanting, which seemed to give Fuller confidence. He used a jack-knife to whip the evil Stomper and collect his shiny new van.

OTHER BOUTS: Dick Slater edged Tony Charles . . . Thunderbolt Patterson and Professor Toru Tanaka were both disqualified . . . Ron Bass overwhelmed Tommy Gilbert Jr. . . . Rick Oliver bounced Jerry Bryant.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



GLEN FALLS, N.Y.

By Kathy Bruso

May 2179



BOB BACKLUND
vs.
JIMMY VALIANT



Bob Backlund had originally signed to wrestle Bulldog Brower in defense of his WWF. But Brower was unable and said he had car trouble. Therefore, Jimmy Valiant substituted for Brower, setting off a wild bout. In the beginning, Valiant hid a foreign object in his trunks. Backlund knew it and he jumped on top of Jimmy. Then Backlund was stabbed with the foreign object. Miraculously, he recovered to deliver the finalizing atomic spinebreaker.

OTHER BOUTS: S.D. Jones drew with Johnny Rodz . . . Tito Santana bopped Baron Scicluha.

LANDOVER, MD.

By Alicia Williams



BRUNO SAMMARTINO
vs.
ERNIE LADD



The Living Legend, Bruno Sammartino, returned to the Capital Centre. It was a glorious return. Wrestling the self-proclaimed "King of Wrestling," Ernie Ladd, Sammartino displayed a brilliant blend of maneuvers and speed in vanquishing Ladd. Ladd tried many dirty tricks before he was stopped. But Bruno overcame all of them to claim the victory.

OTHER BOUTS: Ted DiBiase successfully defended his North American Heavyweight title against Gentleman Jerry Valiant . . . Ivan Putski stopped Johnny Valiant.

May 1979

MONROE, LA.

By Clifton Phillips



MR. WRESTLING II
vs.
BARON VON KRUPP



Louisiana wrestling fans have a hard time remembering a match as thrilling and brutal as the Mr. Wrestling II-Baron Von Krupp battle. It was obvious Krupp would not let this be a fair match. He enraged II by clawing at his mask and trying to pull it off. II forgot himself for a moment and flung Krupp against the ropes. After keeping a furious pace, both men were counted out, mercifully ending the bout.

OTHER BOUTS: The Assassin and The Angel lost by disqualification to Dusty Rhodes and Cowboy Bill Watts, though they retained their United States Tag Team title . . . Luke Graham stopped Stan Lane . . . Angelo Mosca bumped Randy Tyler.

THE SCENE KEEPS exploding inside Jim Garvin's confused head. He is in the ring, about to defend his Florida heavyweight championship. His advisor, Karl Kox, motions to him for a final word. Kox cups his mouth with his hand and whispers into Garvin's ear. But with his other hand, Kox waves for the challenger, King Curtis, to attack. The premeditated sneak ambush works perfectly. Garvin is suddenly a contender. Curtis is now champion.

Losing the championship did little for Jim Garvin's confidence. But being betrayed

my face in front of the entire wrestling community, and I didn't know what to think.

"I'm pretty much of a loner to begin with, and after Kox screwed me, I really withdrew. It was dangerous. I mean, I was waking up in the morning and spending the entire day and night without speaking to a soul. I was lonely, depressed and hurt. Thank the good Lord that Dusty came along when he did. I think in a very real sense, he saved my career."

"Dusty" is "The American Dream," Dusty Rhodes. Aware of the emotional turmoil and

JIM GARVIN FINDS A REAL FRIEND

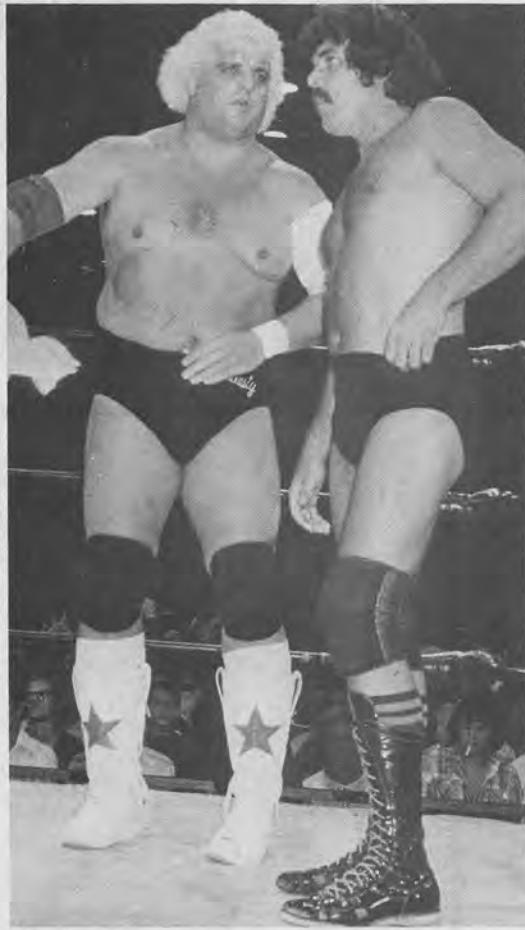
Betrayed by Killer Karl Kox, former Florida champion Jim Garvin was a young man without a friend. Lonely and depressed, he turned to Dusty Rhodes. "The American Dream" proved that besides being a great wrestler, he is a caring and tender human being

by a man he trusted, Killer Karl Kox, hurt much more. Kox led Garvin to Florida's highest peak. But the path to the bottom seemed much rockier than the route to the top.

"I had no one," Garvin recalled. "Kox had stepped on

mental anguish Garvin was going through, Rhodes reached out and let Jim know he cared. A beautiful friendship began.

"Sure, I knew what the kid was going through," Rhodes said. "I've been betrayed before and it's the lowest feeling in the

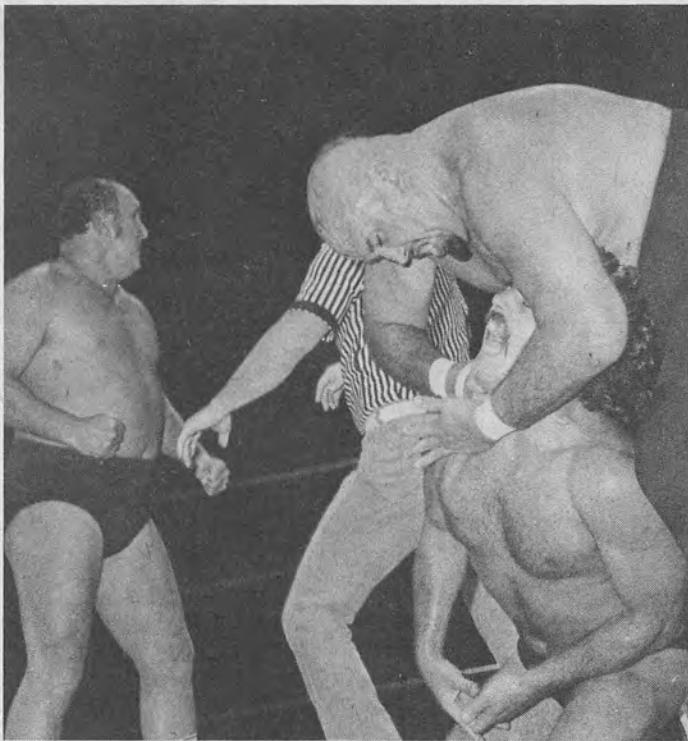


Former Florida champion Jim Garvin seems relaxed with "The American Dream," Dusty Rhodes, by his side. The two stars teamed to battle King Curtis and Karl Kox.

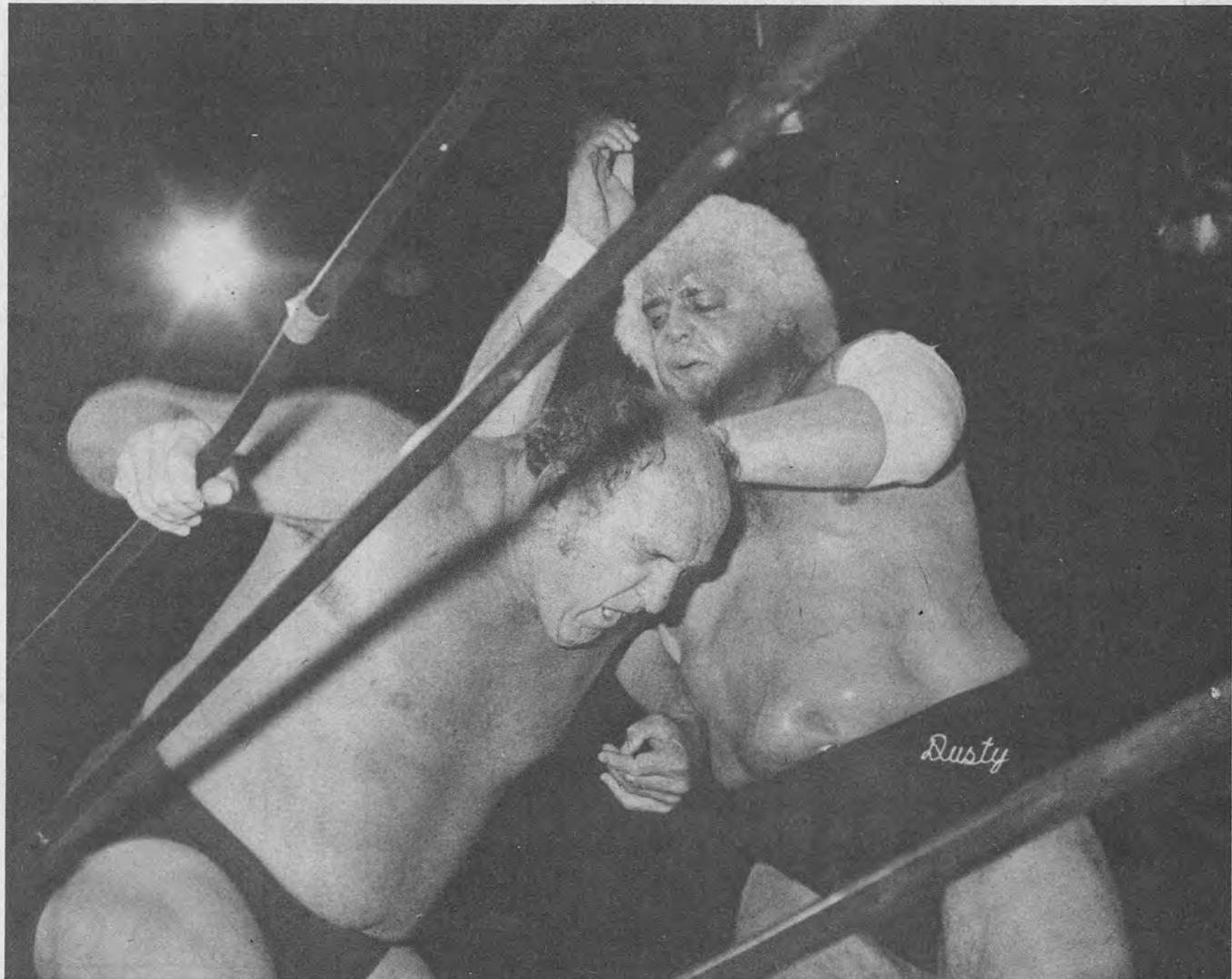
world. You feel like the whole world is against you. Extreme paranoia, baby. It's quite grim."

Besides, Dusty had another reason for befriending Garvin. For several years, Rhodes has participated in a bloody and ugly

(Continued on page 54)



King Curtis chokes Jim Garvin as Killer Karl Kox distracts the referee (above left). The referee keeps a watchful eye on the action as Kox punishes the man he betrayed, Jim Garvin (above right). Helping his friend, Rhodes lands the famed "Bionic Elbow" on the unprotected neck of Kox (below).



INSIDE WRESTLING'S

RAW DEALS

These Ratings Are Compiled With The Assistance Of Top Wrestlers, Promoters, And Reporters. They Are Universally Accepted As Official

World Wrestling Federation



Champion:
BOB BACKLUND



1—PAT PATTERSON

American Wrestling Association



Champion:
NICK BOCKWINKEL



1—BILLY ROBINSON

National Wrestling Alliance



Champion:
HARLEY RACE



1—DUSTY RHODES

Most Popular Wrestlers



1—IVAN PUTSKI



2—DUSTY RHODES

Most Hated Wrestlers



1—GREG VALENTINE



2—RIC FLAIR

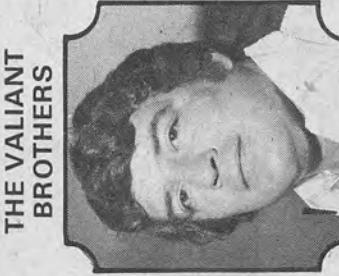
Tag Teams



THE VALIANT BROTHERS



THE VALIANT BROTHERS

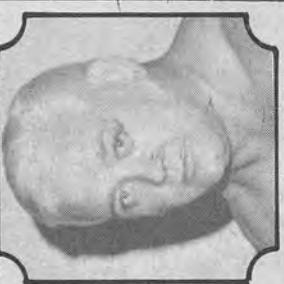


THE VALIANT BROTHERS



PAUL JONES &
BARON VON RASCHKE

3—PAUL JONES



RAY STEVENS &
PAT PATTERSON

4—MIKE GRAHAM &

STEVE KEIRN

5—TOMMY RICH &

WAHOO McDANIEL

6—MARK LEWIN &

THE SPOILER

7—GREG GAGNE &

JIM BRUNZELL

8—IVAN KOLOFF &

OLE ANDERSON

9—EDDY MANS-

FIELD & LEROY

BROWN

10—JACK & JERRY

BRISCO



3—ANDRE
THE GIANT



4—ERNIE LADD



5—BULLDOG
BROWER

5—MR. WRESTLING II



2—RIC FLAIR



3—ANDRE
THE GIANT



4—KEN PATERA

4—JIM BRUNZELL

5—Wahoo
McDaniel

6—King Curtis

7—Mr. Wrestling

11—

8—Rick
Steamboat

9—Spoiler

10—Bruiser



2—GREG
VALENTINE



3—VERNE GAGNE



4—BULLDOG
BROWER

5—Ivan Putski

6—Ted DiBiase

7—Jim Valiant

8—Steve Travis

9—Peter Mainia

10—Tito Santana

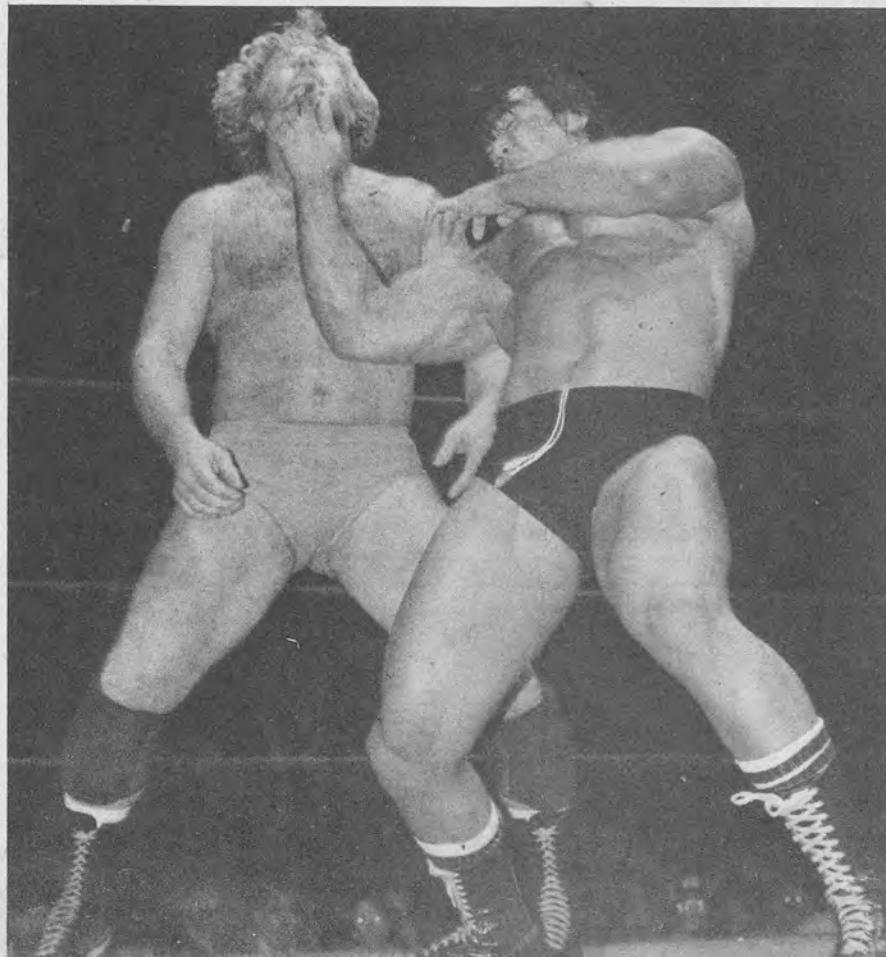
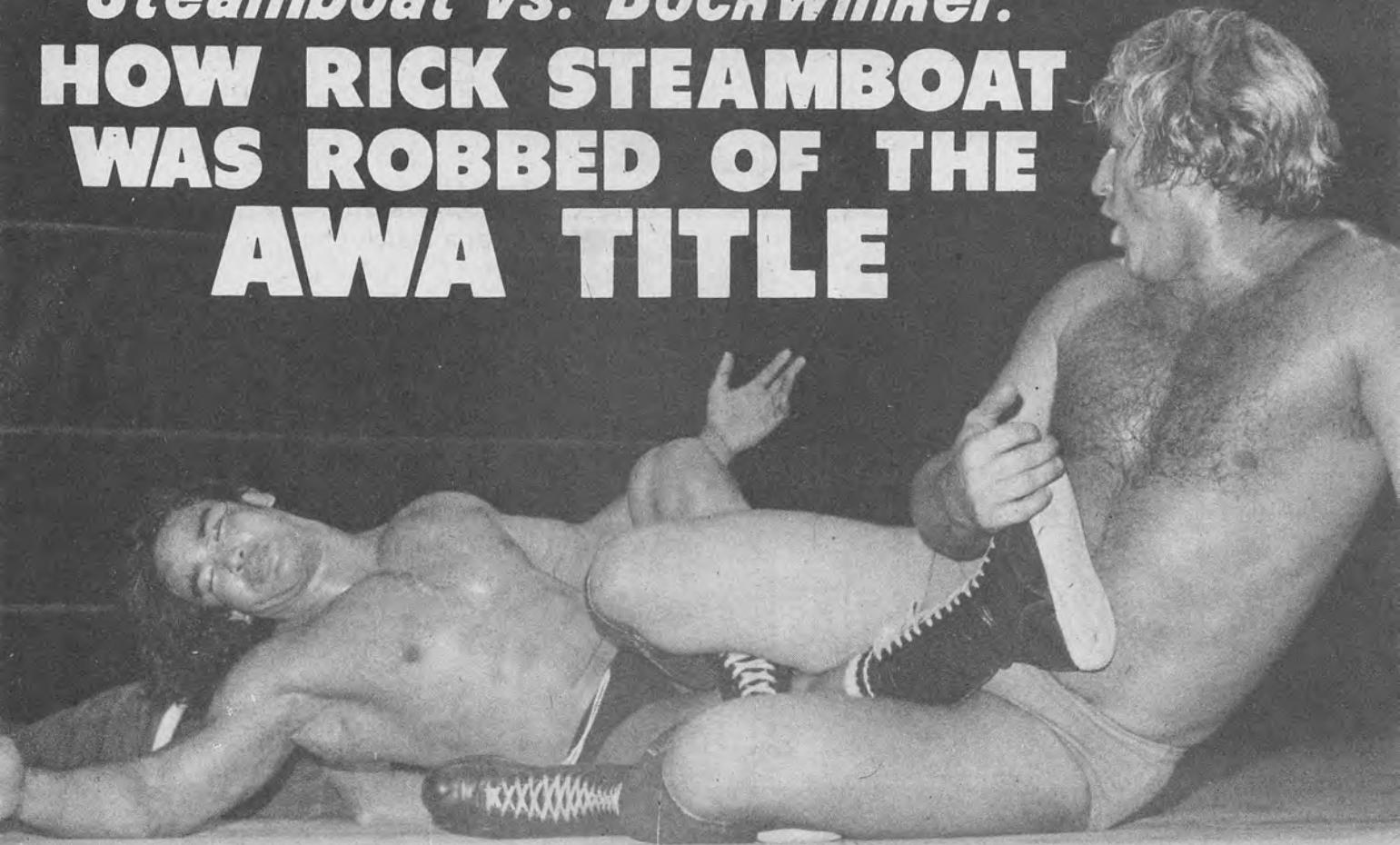


2—GREG
VALIENTE



3—HUSSEIN ARAB

Steamboat vs. Bockwinkel: **HOW RICK STEAMBOAT WAS ROBBED OF THE AWA TITLE**



NICK BOCKWINKEL, LOSER, was laughing uproariously. Rick Steamboat, winner, was close to tears. Rick just learned how the greatest crimes are committed with a fountain pen.

For weeks, Steamboat trained for his title match against Nick Bockwinkel, AWA champion. The young grappler waited months for Bockwinkel to sign for the bout. On the night of the battle, Rick was in the best condition of his career.

"I've never felt better in my life," Rick recalled after the furor died down. "Before really important matches, you worry about straining muscles or getting some dumb injury, anything that would keep you from being at your best. But I was lucky. Everything felt great. Did I just say I was lucky? Calling myself lucky. That would be funny if it didn't hurt

**Rick Steamboat was the winner.
Nick Bockwinkel was the loser.
The ring announcer's decision was simple and straight.
But in a very real sense, Steamboat had lost the opportunity he had waited for . . . possession of the AWA championship**

Left: The effect of Bockwinkel's figure-four leglock is evident upon the face of Steamboat. Below left: Rick snaps Bockwinkel's head with a hard backhand smash. Right: "Look out Rick!" Here comes Nick off the top rope! Below: This vise-like headlock has Rick in total command.



so much.

"When I stepped into the ring, everything felt perfect. Every nerve was alive, just like they always are at the really important times. I can still remember the tingling on my skin.

"Within the first few minutes of a match you can tell if it will be great. I knew this would be superb almost immediately. I didn't strain; everything came easily. I was 'in the zone.' That's what you call it when you're wrestling better than you ever thought you could. Yeah, I was in the zone.

"You could tell by the look on Bockwinkel's face that I had him. I mean, he tried all his dirty tricks from the start. He usually waits to try the rough stuff. But he was scared. So he started cheating immediately. I didn't realize the biggest cheating had already taken place outside the ring."

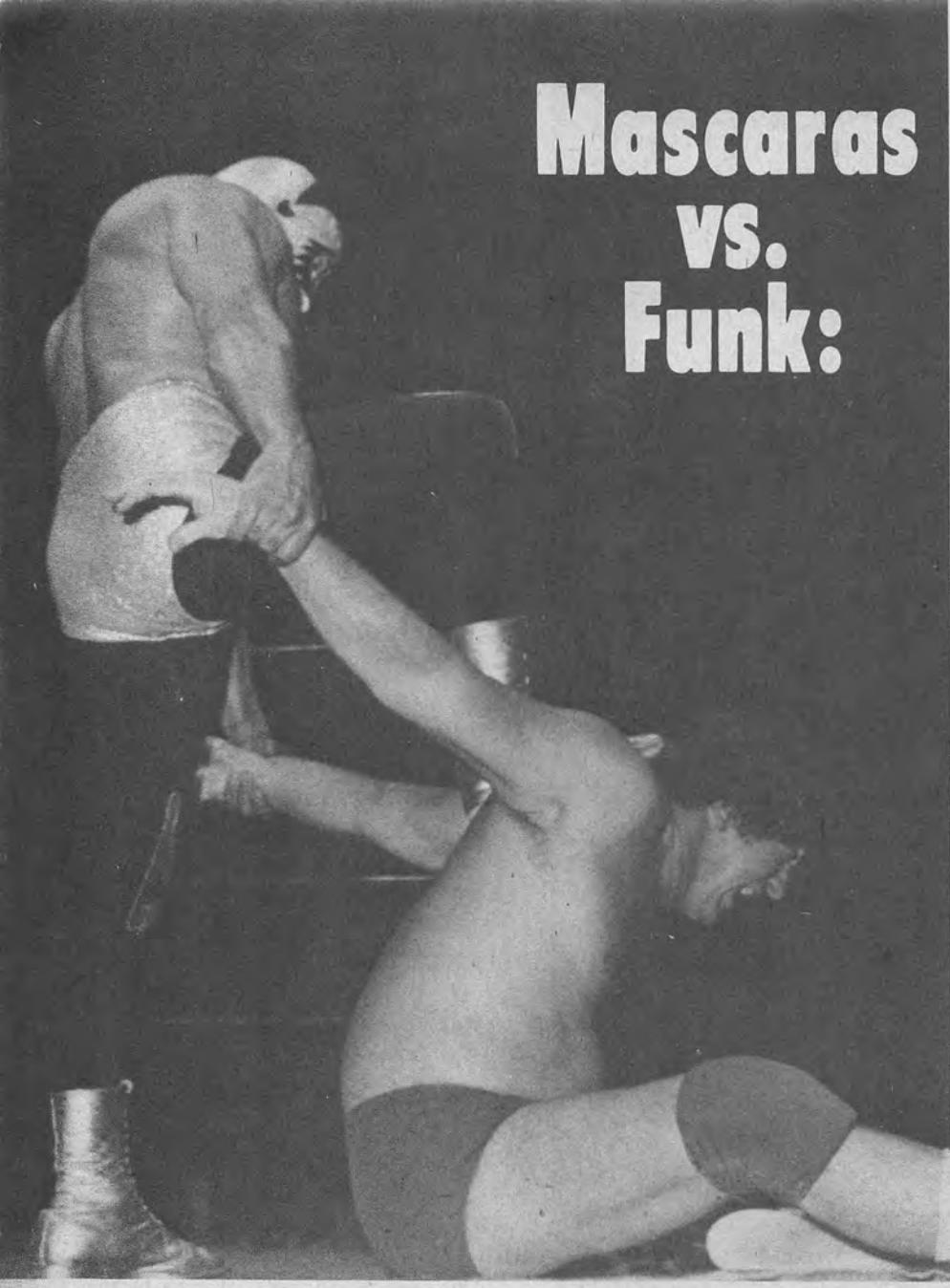
Steamboat went on to win the match. For a glorious moment, he was AWA champion. "I know what it feels like to be champion," Rick declared, "and it's the greatest feeling in the world. Nothing comes close to it."

Rick was leaping about the ring, elated with sensations only the very lucky will know. Then he saw Bockwinkel smiling. "I felt like someone was walking over my grave," Rick remembered.

The referee was about to award Steamboat the belt when Bockwinkel whispered in the officials's ear. Instead of announcing a new champion, the referee simply told the ring announcer that Steamboat won the match. Rick asked why he wasn't champion.

"Look at your contract," the referee declared. "I'm afraid he stole the belt from you, son.

(Continued on page 62)



Mascaras vs. Funk:

CAREERS ON THE LINE IN A DOUBLE

TIME PASSES SLOWLY. The hands of the clock never seem to move. The sun shines brightly, as if it never intends to set. Mil Mascaras notes he has looked at his watch five times in the last five minutes.

"I feel good," Mil tells himself, "as good as I've ever felt. The workouts have been fine. The strategies should work. I've done this hundreds of times. Why does this feel like the first?"

Mil paces the motel room, stalking like a caged animal. In three hours, he will be off to the arena. In six hours, his fate will be sealed. Mil thinks he should eat something, but he has no appetite.

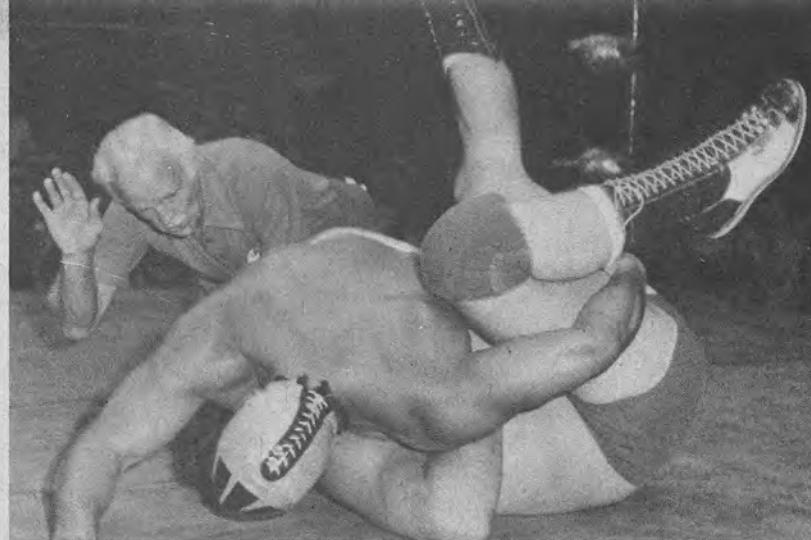
On the other side of town, Terry Funk's massive hand squeezes the telephone receiver. He listens, then yells at his brother, Dory. "I know what I'm doing! I had to take this match against Mascaras. People have to see I'm as tough as I ever was. The best way to do that is to kick that masked bum's butt. I'm as great as I ever was and I'm gonna damn well prove it!"

"What do you mean I should take it easy? I haven't been away that long. What's the use of

Mascaras and Funk traded advantages in their titanic struggle. Mil applies an effective surfboard (above). But Funk brawls his way back into the match (below). This battle was crucial for both grapplers.



Wrestling boasts of no finer superstars than Mil Mascaras and Terry Funk. But the world knew that their match meant much more than a simple win or loss. Two brilliant careers were at the crossroads



COMEBACK MATCH

wrestling preliminary guys? I have to re-establish my rep fast. Mascaras is the best. I gotta beat the best!

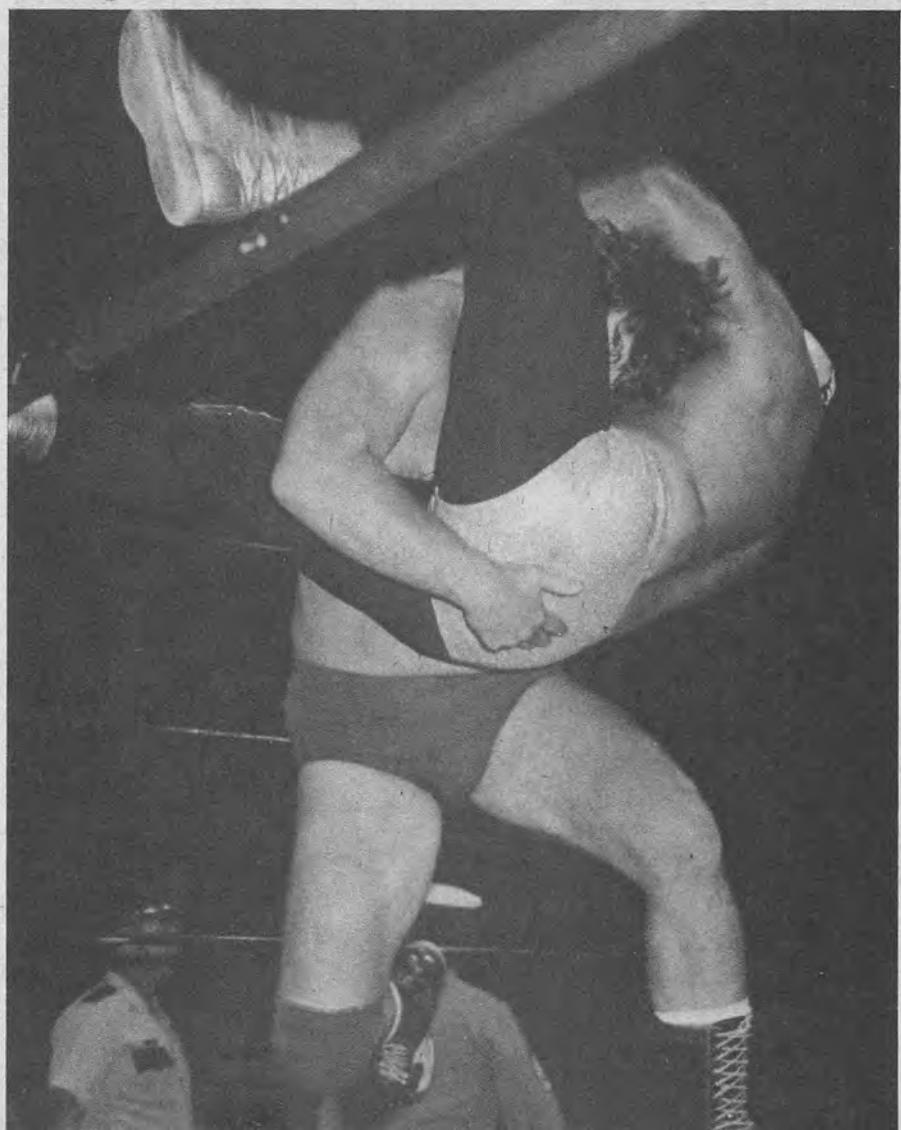
"I know Mascaras looks at this as a comeback match, too. He's got as much to prove as I do. Maybe more! We've both done other things and we're returning now. I don't care how hard that makes him press. That's not my concern. I can slaughter Mascaras on his best day!"

"Look, I'm not about to roll over and play dead, I'm gonna be NWA champ again. Count on it! Beating Mascaras will make me one of the top contenders real quick. That's what I'm aiming for!"

"Sure, Mascaras wants to be champ, too. I can't help it if he has delusions of adequacy. He won't make champion. I.will. No, I'm not worried. Yes, I've got my tactics worked out. Don't worry. Just stop worrying."

He can stop worrying because Terry is doing enough worrying for everyone. The powerful grappler checks the time. He has to be at the arena within the hour. It takes 15 minutes to get there. That means 45 minutes with nothing to do. Terry tries

"Dangerous" Danny McShane begins a count as an intricate maneuver has Funk pinned (above). A backbreaker is applied by the powerful Funk (below). Though these two brilliant warriors are two of the greatest mat stars in wrestling history, each had much to prove in this match.



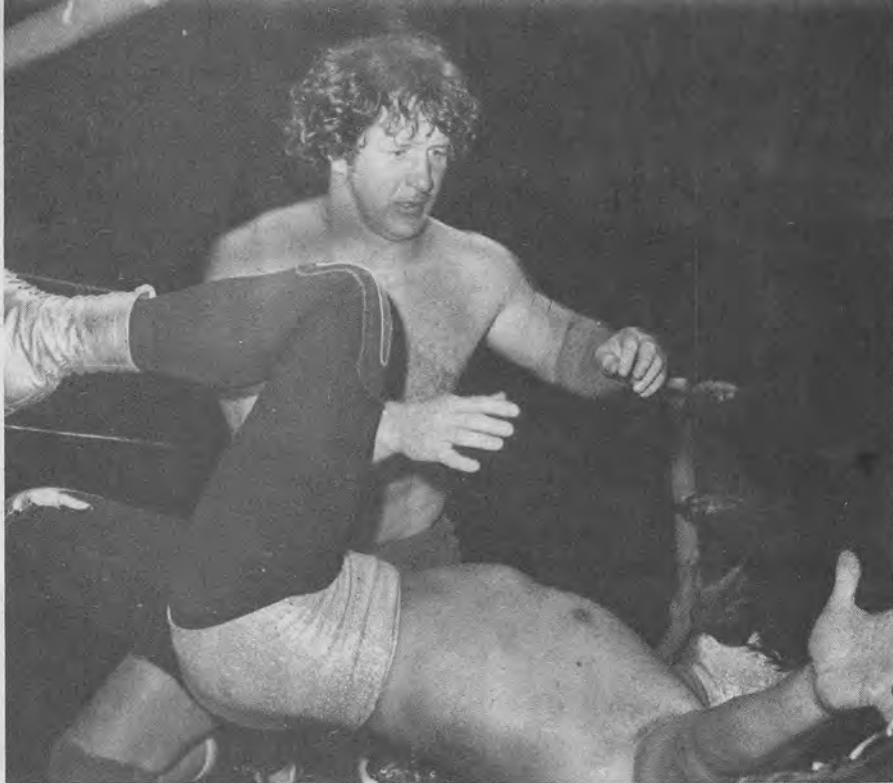
sitting down but is too nervous. He grabs the car keys and heads out. Though he has time to spare, his car travels at 70 miles per hour. Funk welcomes the guy who opens up the arena.

Meanwhile, Mascaras swims in the motel pool. His magnificent body slices through the water. He has a shark's power and a dolphin's grace. Mil is careful not to exercise too much and tire himself out. Swimming soothes tension.

After the swim, Mil has worked up an appetite. But it is time to go to the arena. Well, it is always best to wrestle hungry. Mil is hungry in many ways.

He dresses and gets in his car. He drives slowly. This is no time

With Mascaras stunned and prone, Funk moves in swiftly (above). Terry grappled with abandon throughout the exciting match. But a long fall to the mat proves embarrassing (below) as Mascaras slides away.



to get into an accident. Too much is riding on tonight. The match must be perfect. If word gets around that he's slipping . . . But word won't get around. Mil is as good as he ever was. He's just got to be.

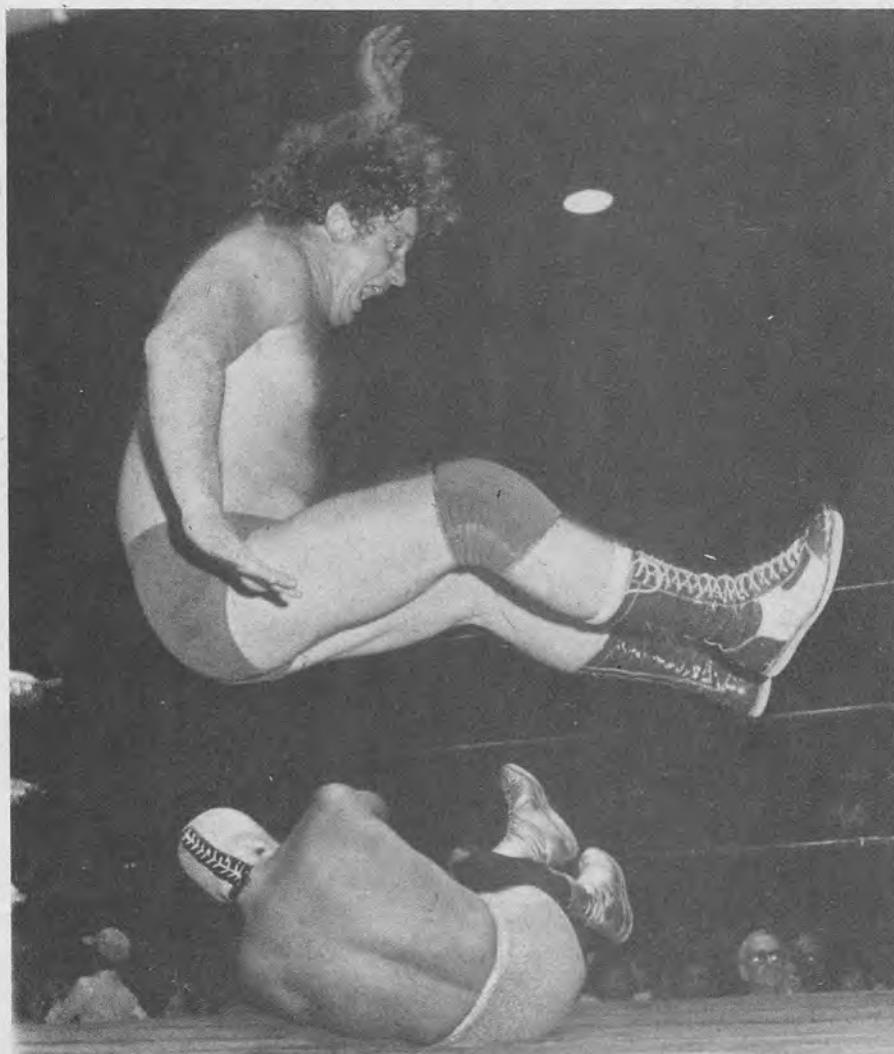
Mil arrives at the arena and walks to the dressing room. He undresses slowly. Each piece of equipment has been checked and double-checked. Still, Mil is careful before putting anything on. It is a slow process, but it makes Mascaras feel ready. When everything is in place, Mascaras walks to the mirror. He studies his reflection. It pleases him.

Terry Funk has already dressed. He also took great care with his wardrobe, examining everything for comfort and durability. Now Terry waits. He tries to control his nerves. It is a difficult task.

Terry sits as the preliminary matches wind down. He tries to watch them but he can't. The only match that interests him features Terry Funk and Mil Mascaras. Men war and bleed, but Terry Funk doesn't care.

Neither can Mil watch the other matches. His brain is alive

(Continued on page 52)

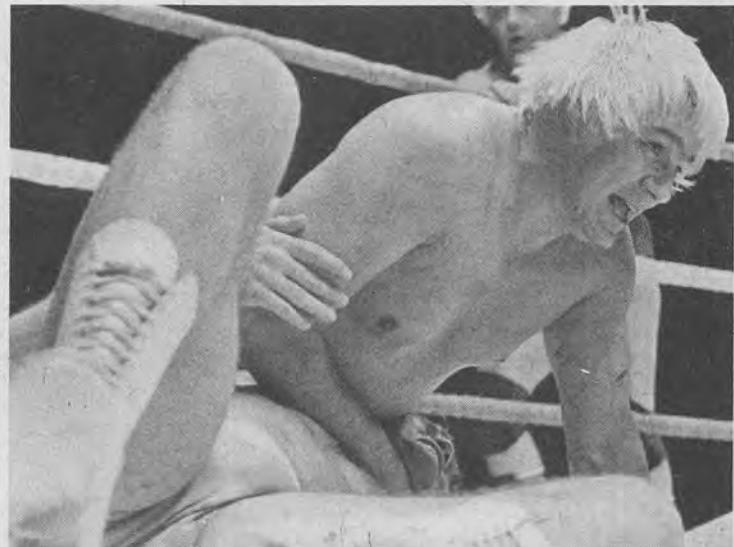


INSIDE WRESTLING

38

CAPSULE PROFILE

PAT PATTERSON



The referee raises the victorious Pat Patterson's hand (below). Patterson is a tag team champion with Ray Stevens (right). He is a veteran grappling star.

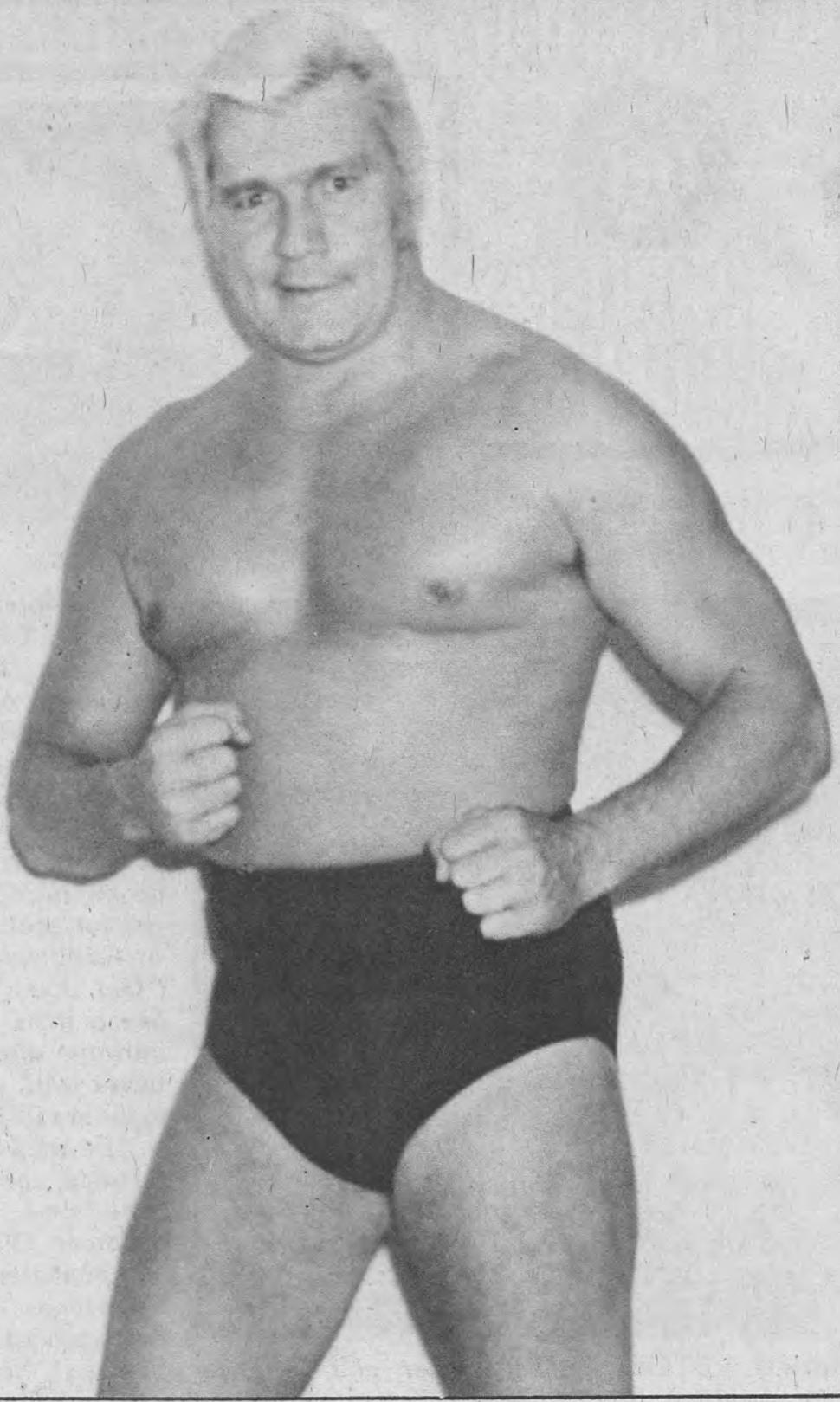


A GRIZZLED VETERAN of many wrestling wars ("Yeah, I've faced 'em all and stood tall") . . . Spent much of his career swaying between fan affection and detestation

("I've never changed, the fans have") . . . Solidified reputation as an individual intent on calling his own shots ("Won't ever bend for another person. I'm what I

am and damn proud of it") . . . Wrestled for a long time in the San Francisco area ("Loved it out there. Great fans") . . . Many fans delight in his proud, working-man attitude ("Guys who built this great land with their hands outta be rewarded. I do my part") . . . Has little use for pretty boy wrestlers or flamboyant masked men ("Get down to it and fight like a man. Enough of this garbage already") . . . Will never win any awards for manners ("I tell it like it is") . . . Formed a tag team with one-time enemy Ray Stevens ("Me and Ray are like brothers. We fight and ten minutes later we're buddies. Sometimes") . . . Owns AWA tag team title with partner Stevens ("Now winning that was a helluva thrill") . . . Proud of his contribution to wrestling ("This game has been damn good to me and I love it"). □

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP



PAT PATTERSON

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Each day, out of the thousands of letters we receive, hundreds of them are from fans asking the whereabouts of their favorite wrestler. In this special column, we will try to answer the questions you ask the most!

MIL MASCARAS

The Man of a Thousand Masks has been wrestling in Texas. As usual, fan adoration has been at an incredibly high level. Also, the multi-talented Mascaras has been filming another movie.



VICTOR RIVERA

A rumor has been circulating which suggests that Rivera, whose image has been badly tainted by his association with manager Fred Blassie, has turned scientific in Los Angeles! Recent bouts would tentatively support this bizarre story.

CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW

After a lengthy and painful convalescence, the Chief has returned to full strength and full combat. Intent on avenging the vicious attacks which crippled him, Strongbow declares he will not rest until Greg Valentine has been taught a lesson. Strongbow is this month's Hotseat interview.



EDOUARD CARPENTIER

Several Canadian arenas have hosted Carpentier's occasional appearances. Always fit, Carpentier is maintaining his wrestling weight with full-time work in the health and fitness areas.

ONE ON



Ken Patera, an evil and shrewd rule-breaker. He does not care for Ivan Putski.

(More than a fleeting coincidence marks the parallel paths of these two very different grapplers. One man is a contender for the title of a most beloved wrestler. The other has earned the scorn and contempt his shoddy tactics deserve. In a sense, they are similar. However, one chose the path of evil, cheating and cruelty as his route toward wrestling stardom. The other has never deviated from the principled path his conscience leads him down. From his beach home in Virginia, Ken Patera confronts the exponent of "Polish Power," Ivan Putski, via picturephone.)

IVAN PUTSKI:

How is your home?

KEN PATERA:

Fine, come on down. You can use the back entrance.



Picturephone photos courtesy of Bell Telephone.

IP: Pig. Cowardly pig.

KP: If anyone should know about pigs, it's you, Putski.

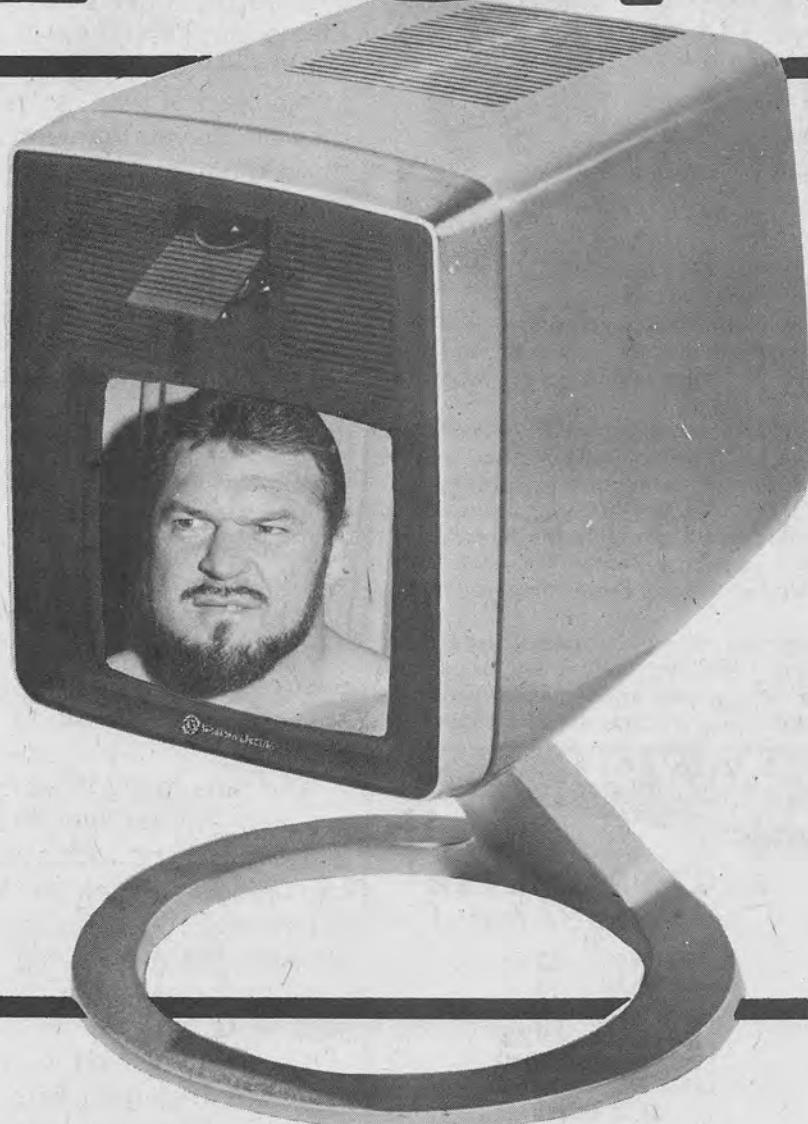
IP: Why don't you come up to

the WWF and say that in person?

KP: I was there. Where were you?

Every month the telephone wires will crackle as two top grapplers rage and argue. We'll print the unedited transcript of their conversations, giving the fans a privileged glimpse at wrestlers which can be found nowhere else

NONE



Ivan Putski, the most famous proponent of "Polish Power." Most fans love Ivan.

IP: You left just before I came back.

KP: I had other commitments.

IP: That's not what I heard.

KP: What's that mean?

IP: People say you suddenly *discovered* commitments when you learned I would be returning.

KP: You calling me yellow?

IP: Yes.

KP: Putski, you think I'm afraid

of you? You little shrimp, I could twist you into a kielbasa in two seconds flat.

IP: I do not care for the innuendo, Patera.

KP: Inn-u-end-oh? You learn a new word? That musta doubled your vocabulary.

IP: I don't appreciate the slurs you heap upon my heritage.

KP: I don't consider half a bottle of vodka and an auto-

graphed picture of Bobby Vinton a heritage.

IP: There, there you are insulting me.

KP: You're quick. I started insulting you five minutes ago.

IP: Men like you make me nauseous. You're afraid to settle things in the ring.

KP: Not at all. Come on down. I'm sure you can get someone to take you across the street.

IP: If you were simply ignorant, I could excuse your disgusting attitude. But you are an intelligent man. You

purposefully choose this sickening way. You purposefully turned away from scientific wrestling and became a rulebreaking wrestler. That is unforgivable.

KP: My, my, you musta used three or four new words. Got a teacher?

IP: You avoid the question.

KP: What question, kielbasi-

(Continued on page 64)

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BODYSLAMS & PINFALLS

(Continued from Page 8)

"They could be great. Yet, their greatness is in their wild unpredictability. You have to be predictable to a certain extent in tag team wrestling. You also have to be trustworthy. I like Brower and Steele, but I'd still make them cut the cards. And they'd have to realize that the first match they disobeyed me would be the last match I'd be their manager. Guys like Brower and Steele don't take orders well.

"As for these two being tag team champions, I don't think it'll happen for years. That's because the current champs, the Valiants, will remain champs forever. No, at this point I wouldn't train Brower and Steel to be champions. I see them more as traveling bounty hunters, slaughtering any team I pay them to destroy. They'd be known and feared all over the world. I like that.

"Did fans really think up this tag team? Incredible. Well, it just goes to show that you can't judge them all by the stupid majority. It's nice knowing there are some intelligent people appreciating your work."

It certainly is nice to know there are intelligent fans out there. Other writers have contacted me, urging that I not be deterred by criticism. Their encouragement is appreciated.

I once asked Ivan Koloff how he managed to be so great while most people insulted and hated him. "I do it for myself," he replied. "I don't wrestle for anyone else. It doesn't matter who hates you or why. They pay for their

ticket. That entitles them to cheer or boo. It doesn't entitle them to make any difference in how I feel about wrestling.

"As far as I'm concerned, the fans can shove it."

That's the way most of the great wrestlers feel—superstars like Koloff, Nick Bockwinkel, Harley Race, and Greg Valentine. Still, when a fan shows he appreciates their



The unpredictable George "The Animal" Steele brings a foreign object into the arena. Can Steele team with anyone? art and skill, these wrestlers can't hide their delight. As Superstar Billy Graham once admitted, "It can't change anything, but it's still better to be loved than hated."

So I wish to use this space to thank all the people who've written encouragement to me and the so-called "rule-breakers." Your kind words are much appreciated.

As for the others, I agree with Ivan Koloff. □



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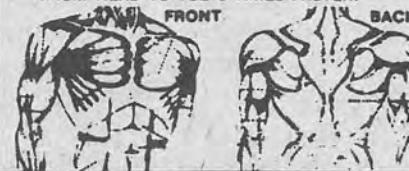
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ON THE ROAD

(Continued from Page 10)



Ox Baker is known for his full, drooping mustache and curled eyebrows.

monologue which took the better part of an hour. For reasons of space, I have attempted to convey the essence of his remarks.

"I was never an official member of King's little group. I'd wrestle off and on, here and there, basically 'cause I agreed with the philosophy of his family.

"But after a couple of matches, and that ain't much in this business, I went to King and asked him to increase the dough.

"Instead of talking like a man, King laughed at me. Imagine that. Laughed at Ox Baker. Well, I nearly went to rip his head off his shoulders. Instead, bein' a peaceful and gentle sort of fella, I asked him why he found my conversation so humorous.

"He said he would pay money only to his best wrestlers, only to the talented ones. Well, at that stage I nearly did rip his head off.

"That's loyalty? That's the

way you treat your people? I screamed at him. He laughed and walked away. I was tempted to pick up a chair and break it over his bald skull. But, as I said, I'm a peaceful and gentle soul and I never have attacked someone from behind.

"Well, that family is mighty peculiar, I tell you. Word musta got out that me and King were finished real quick. Next thing I know, I'm gettin' phone calls from the likes of Don Muraco and Pak Song, threatening me with destruction if I dare to wrestle them.

"Seems once King gives the word, his family commences to stomp out all possible opposition. Now I had wanted to drop the matter, being a peaceful soul, but when people start threatening me, they'd better be prepared to back it up with some action.

"I can remember the first time I climbed into the ring with Pak Song. Wow, did it give me awful good and fine pleasure to knock his head around and around his shoulders 'till he couldn't know which was up or down or even sideways.

"So you can write that I have a war with King and his guys. Not a feud, that's too tame. A war. King has done bad by Ox Baker and I'm not liable to ever forget it."

In the interests of good journalism, I sought out the other side. King's side.

"Look here, I pay my people well and treat them well. Ask my boys if they're unhappy. You see anyone leaving? Nope. They just keep coming aboard. I would've paid Baker money. If he was worth it.

"But he wasn't." King grinned meanly and hung up the phone. □

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DINO BRAVO

(Continued from Page 29)



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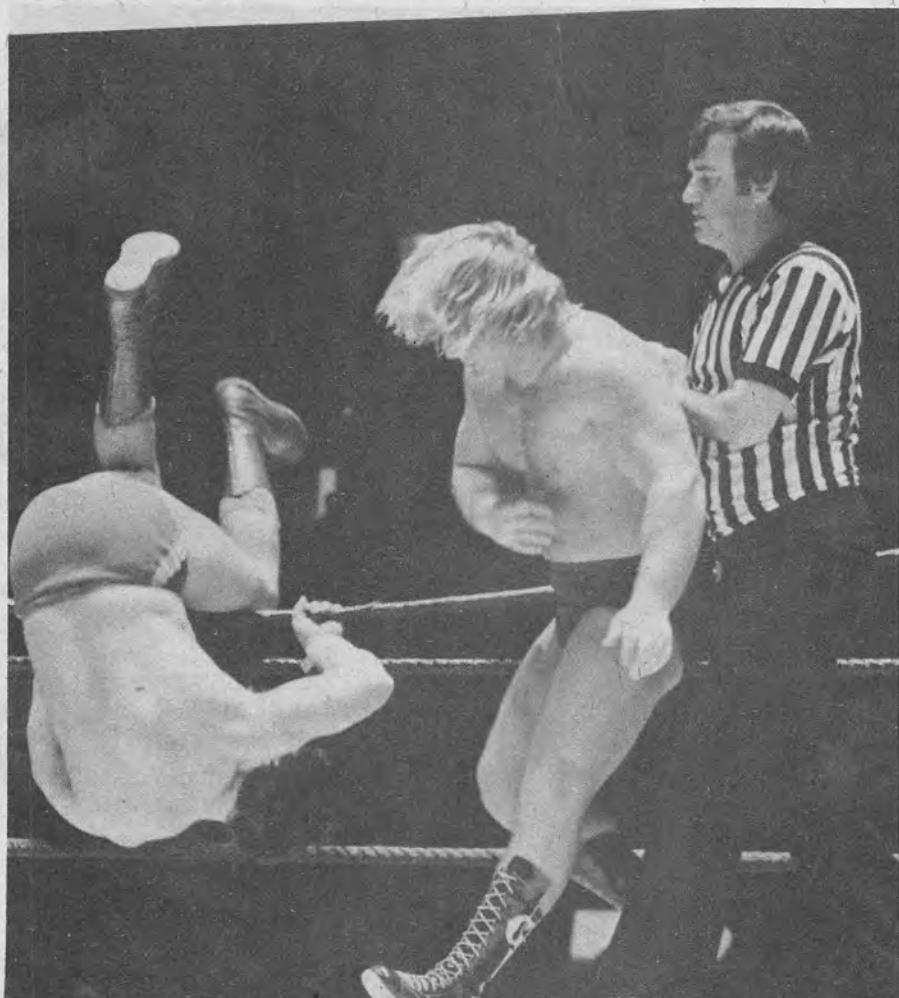
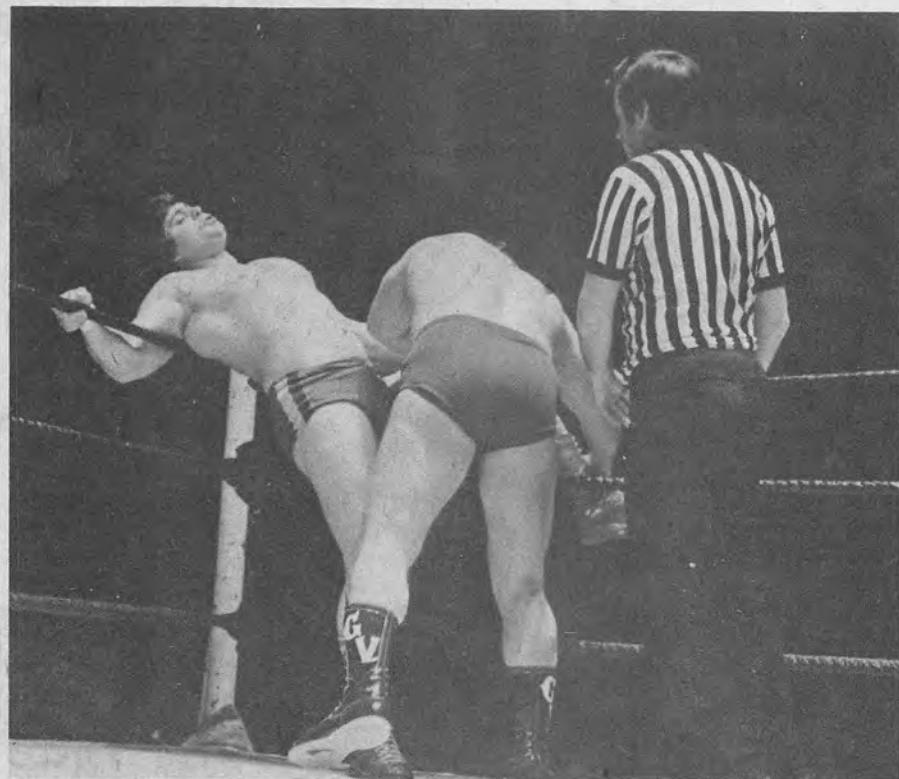
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Valentine seems dazed (above), but still controls the match. He uses the ropes to upset Bravo (opposite, top and bottom). Will Valentine rule all wrestling?

Or Bob Backlund, who barely survived the most appalling gutter tactics.

"There's something wrong with him," Backlund said.

Or Dominic DeNucci.

"I want him turned into pulp in my bare hands," said the Italian star.

The list of Valentine's sadistic acts is endless. So are the vows of vengeance. But words can only go so far. Unfortunately, Valentine is the one who is actually achieving something, however infamous.

It is Valentino who is shocking the fans and awakening them to true horror. It is Valentine who is crippling foes and laughing all the way to the bank.

It is Greg Valentine who is spreading the path of sickness throughout the WWF.

Someone should stop him. Bravo didn't. How many courageous wrestlers are left? □

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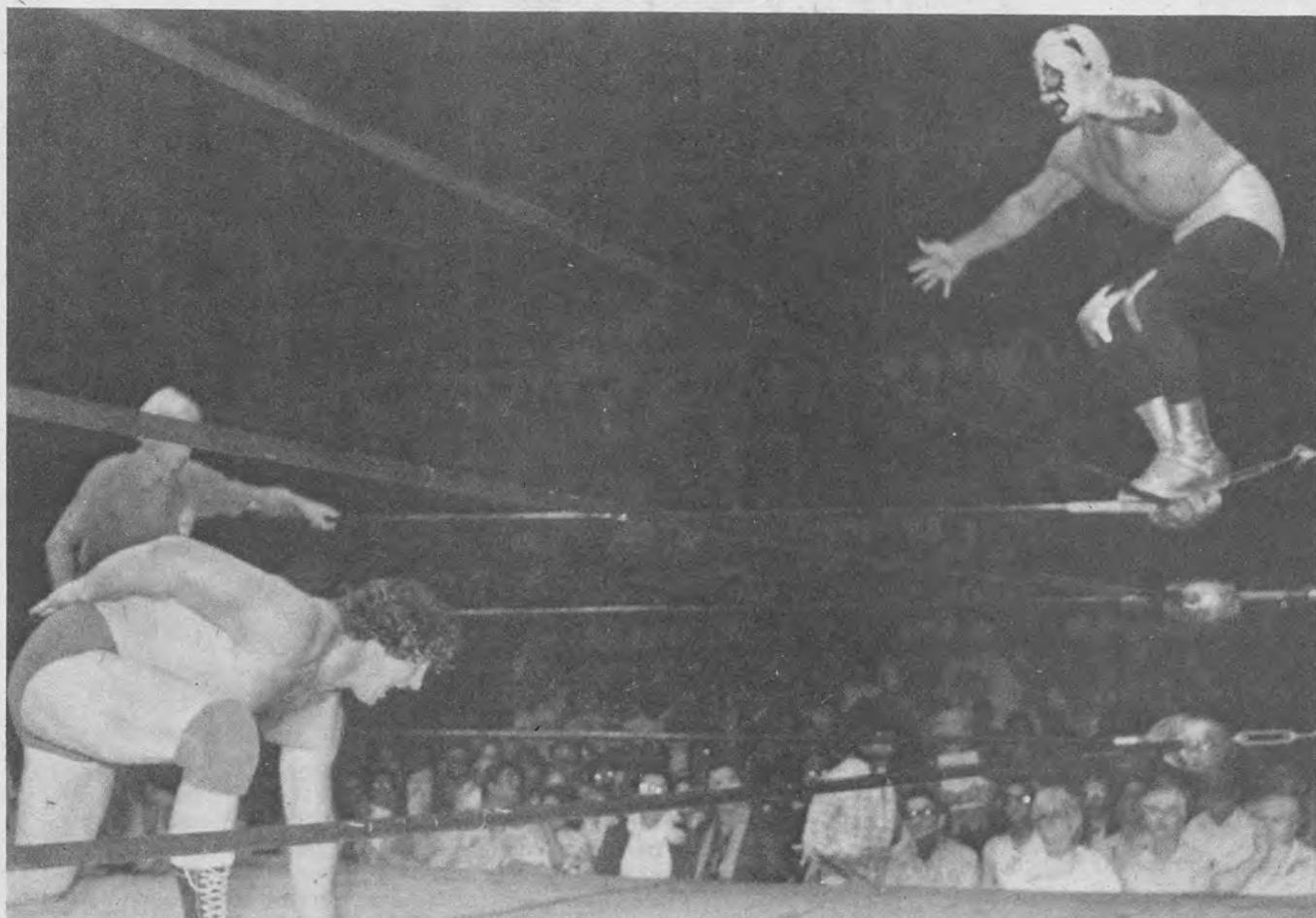
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Mascaras vs. Funk

(Continued from Page 40)



Mascaras is known for his amazing flying maneuvers. His leap from the top rope catches Funk perfectly (above and left).

with strategies and plans. Is there something he has overlooked? Mil's mind races with unanswered questions. Every so often, he thinks. "To stay on top, I have to win this match. I have to win this match."

Mil is summoned into the arena. His nerves erupt. He is aware of every step as he approaches the field of battle. He removes his cape and flexes his muscles. Across the ring stands Terry Funk, sullen and almost still.

The referee announces the coming battle. The grapplers grow more tense. The bell rings. The two men approach each other slowly. Their arms flick out like snakes' tongues as they grab for each other. The battle is on. Mil's brilliant maneuvers at

first overwhelm Funk. But Terry finds his own rhythm and counters Mil's moves. The match teeters back and forth. Each man enjoys spectacular moments but neither can gain an advantage. The fans are on their feet cheering. This is as good as wrestling can get.

Each man absorbs horrible punishment but neither is affected. Their willpower protects them from harm. Each move represents calculated fury. No energy is wasted.

They both remain deadlocked. The bell rings. The match is over, a draw. Both men leave to the sound of a thunderous ovation.

That night, Mil and Terry sleep soundly. They both know the world will celebrate their great battle. Once again, Mil Mascaras and Terry Funk are at the pinnacle of their profession. □



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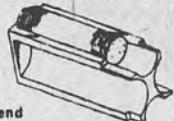
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JIM GARVIN

(Continued from Page 33)



feud with Karl Kox. And King Curtis, an accomplice in the crime, is not invited to too many Rhodes' cocktail parties either.

"I hate Kox and I loathe Curtis," Dusty admitted. "You can't trust Kox from the tip of your nose to the top of your toes. And that Curtis is the worst excuse for a champion I have ever seen. He won't last three weeks."

Rhodes made a few phone calls and the inevitable match was made: Jim Garvin and Dusty Rhodes versus Killer Karl Kox and King Curtis. A grudge match with more angles than a protractor.

Florida wrestling fanatics anticipated the match like children waiting for Christmas morning. They were not disappointed.

One of the wildest tag team

brawling becomes an accepted condition as Kox and Garvin make war in ring center (above). Bleeding profusely from a gash on his forehead, Curtis nevertheless gouges the eyes of Rhodes (below).



matches in Florida history resulted. Garvin wrestled like a man fighting for his last breath. Rhodes grappled with a certain fire in his eyes that is usually



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reserved for major title matches. Kox performed brilliantly, popping around the ring in his shrewd manner. And Curtis battled with a new-found pride and confidence. Being champion had made him tougher and more unpredictable than ever.

"We proved our point tonight," an exhausted Garvin whispered after the match. "When Dusty is in your corner, it's a different story. No sneak attacks or any of that bullcrap."

"Hah, that Garvin is still a useless baby, and that Rhodes is still a blimp full of hot air," Kox stated in his dressing room. "Me and the King whipped 'em pretty good tonight, huh?"

Who is to believe? Take your choice. But one fact is certain. Florida wrestling will never be the same. □

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THE INSIDER

(Continued from Page 12)

"Of course I'll listen to her. She has never been wrong. I'd love to become champion of the WWF, but my health comes first."

I respect Bravo's beliefs. Though I do not attend sessions with gypsies, I feel he is justified in believing whatever he wants. I just hope the gypsy is legitimate. With monsters like Fred Blassie and Lou Albano running loose, scandals, blackmail and payoffs are always possibilities.

RUMOR VS. FACT

RUMOR: Tommy Rich will retire from wrestling in one year. He plans to devote his life to religion, the church and the good book. No one can change his mind.

FACT: This ridiculous rumor, probably started by an evil-mind, low creature like Masked Superstar, has no base behind



A budding wrestling star, Tommy Rich. Tommy will not retire in one year, despite a persistent rumor.

it. Rich is a clean-living Christian, but does not plan on making religion his life.

"Retire in a year? What, are you crazy?" Rich replied. "In a year I'll be the champion of a major federation."

INJURY REPORT

MIKE GRAHAM is recovering after being bitten during a match by the wild and animalistic Bugsy McGraw. Doctors who examined Graham commented that the bite marks, located in Mike's forearm, are unusually large and deep.



Mike Graham was bitten during a match against Bugsy McGraw. Graham is recovering with minimal difficulty.

"That type of bite is usually made by a canine creature or a wolf," one doctor said. "We had to call in a veterinarian to give us a final diagnosis."

TERRY FUNK suffered a broken nose in a recent bout. What is so unusual about a broken nose in the hectic and dangerous world of professional wrestling? Well, this is Funk's 15th broken nose! With a schnozz like that, Terry, they'll never mistake you for Robert Redford in Hollywood!

That's it from here. Catch you later.

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BEHIND THE DOOR

(Continued from Page 18)

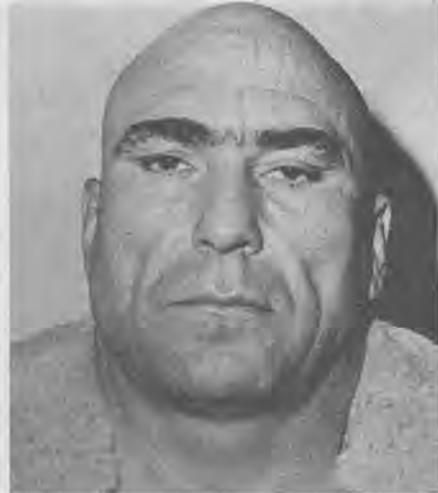
and lies are protected and defended. That is not journalism. That is propaganda. Dictators use such propaganda to distort what is good and what is bad. That is what Dan Shocket is trying to do to you. He is using wrestling as his vehicle to power.

Eighty percent of our letters deal with fans' approval of scientific wrestling, and their disgust with rulebreakers. However, the 20 percent of fans who enjoy seeing rules violated and bodies broken are louder than their more civilized counterparts. Not stronger or smarter. Just louder.

Although I am quite fair in my supporting of wrestling, the same is not quite true of my actions toward rulebreakers. I spy on them, harass them and play sneaky tricks on them. Because of this, my recent mail has not been exactly favorable.

"Become a real reporter," wrote Ms. Vicki Aaronson of Palmer Park, Maryland, "and face the rulebreakers without your disguises. Interview them and tell us the results. If you can't do it without wearing a disguise, don't do it at all."

Another reader, Mr. Michael Dunton of Medford, New York, wrote, "When you resort to trickery and pranks, which you seemingly do every time you run into a rulebreaker, you stoop to their low level. Show them you are better than they are. Hurt them with words, not pranks."



The Mongolian Stomper, one of the many rulebreakers Randy Gordon has played tricks on in recent years.

Letters like these have inspired me to begin my experiment. I plan to show every one of you that rulebreakers cannot be dealt with by the working press. I discount Dan Shocket. He is no longer a member of the working press. He has violated every code by which journalists live. Rulebreakers do not trust him as much as you might think. They merely use him. His column is their free ride into your head. They tell Dan nothing but lies, and he believes them. Then he prints their lies, along with his warped ideas.

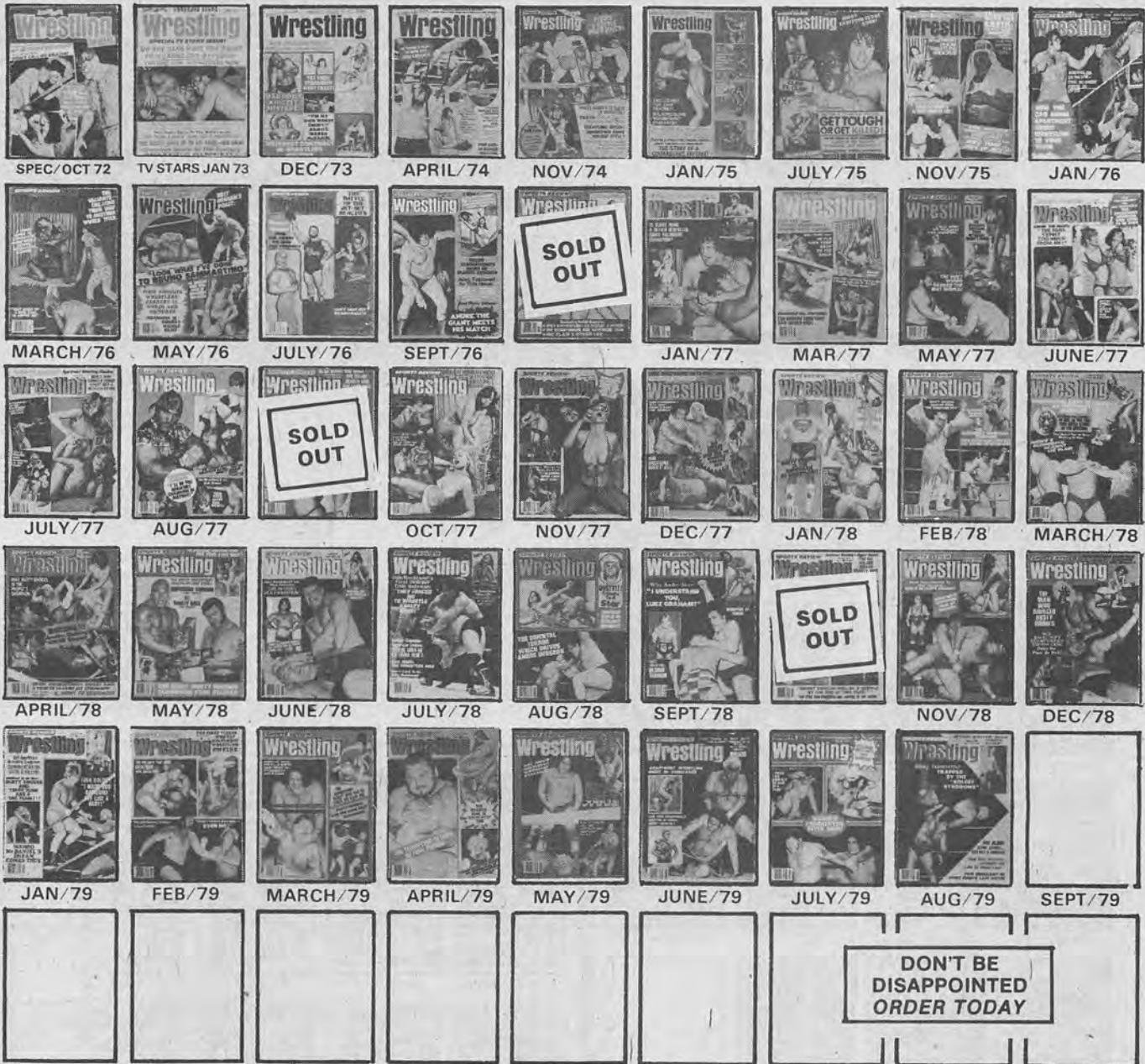
For the next several weeks, I will attempt to set up interviews with rulebreakers, and I will prove how crooked they are. They do not care about any of the fans. They are only out for blood and money. Only scientific wrestlers care about the future of the sport we love so much.

I know I am a marked man in the eyes of many rulebreakers. Thus this might be a dangerous undertaking on my part. But I don't care. If getting hurt means bringing you information, well . . . We'll all find out a lot more by next month.



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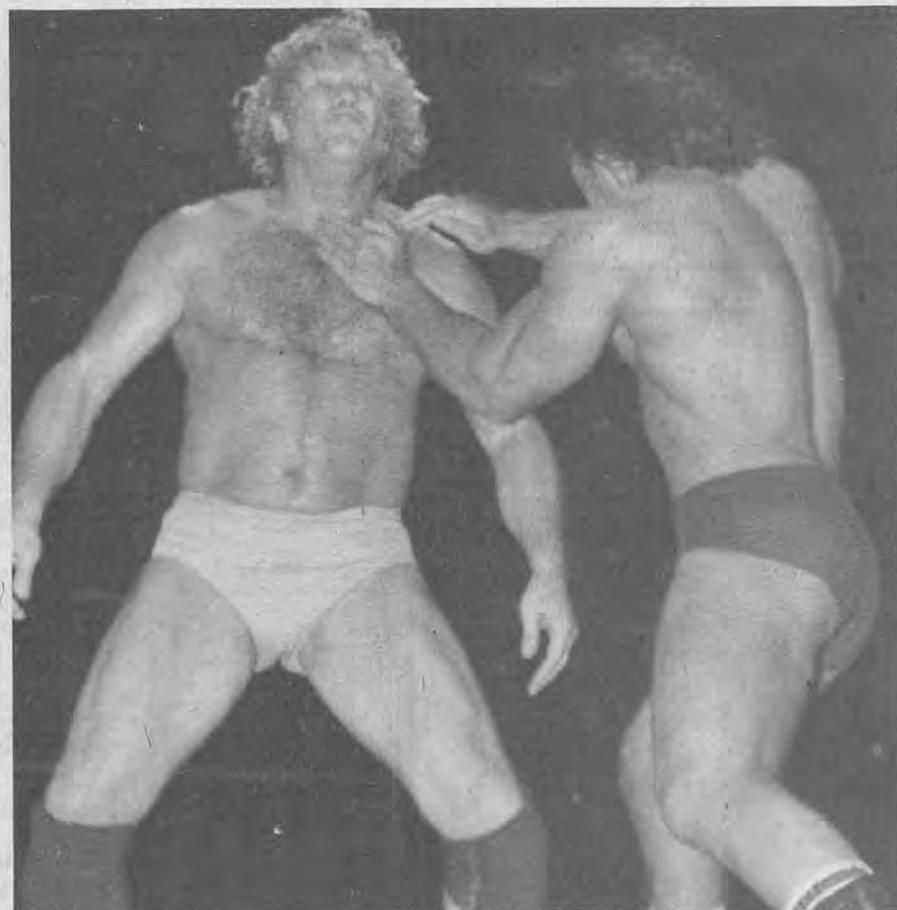
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Steamboat vs. Bockwinkel

(Continued from Page 37)



Above: Steamboat screams in agony as Bockwinkel mercilessly yanks on Rick's left arm. Nick tried to dislocate the limb. Below: Bockwinkel is stunned by a smash to the side of the neck. A contractual error nullified Rick's victory.



There's nothing anyone can do."

Steamboat went back to the dressing room. "I felt like I had been kicked in the belly. Bockwinkel threw the contract in my face. He was considerate enough to underline the

important passages," he said.

The contract read, "The party of the first part [Bockwinkel] will risk his AWA title. The party of the second part [Steamboat] will risk his U.S. title." Rick realized the party of the second

part didn't have the U.S. title to risk. Rick had lost the belt to Ric Flair in a controversial battle only weeks before. Therefore, the contract was invalid. Bockwinkel had his escape clause. Rick knew that any court in the land would be obligated to declare Bockwinkel champion. Technically, Steamboat hadn't fulfilled the terms of his contract. Bockwinkel, even though he lost the match, was still champion.

Steamboat left the arena in a daze. People congratulated him for a great match. Others sympathized with his misfortune. He heard nothing. Without direction, he kept walking.

Rick saw the sun rise. He saw people leaving their homes to go to work. It was afternoon when he finally went to bed. He collapsed into sleep's total escape.

More than 15 hours later, Rick dragged himself out of bed. There was nothing to do, so he made himself a large breakfast. He concentrated on every detail of the meal, trying to make himself forget about the match. It almost worked. But Rick started seeing the match in his mind. The eggs and orange juice suddenly became tasteless.

Later that day, Rick took in a double feature, losing himself in the dark. When he left the movie theatre, it was already dusk. Rick was smiling. One of the films had been Charlie Chaplin's silent comedy, "The Circus." At the film's conclusion, the brokenhearted tramp shakes his body and jauntily walks off into the sunset. Rick walked into the street, shook his right leg, then his left, and walked away. He wasn't happy, but he was no longer beaten.

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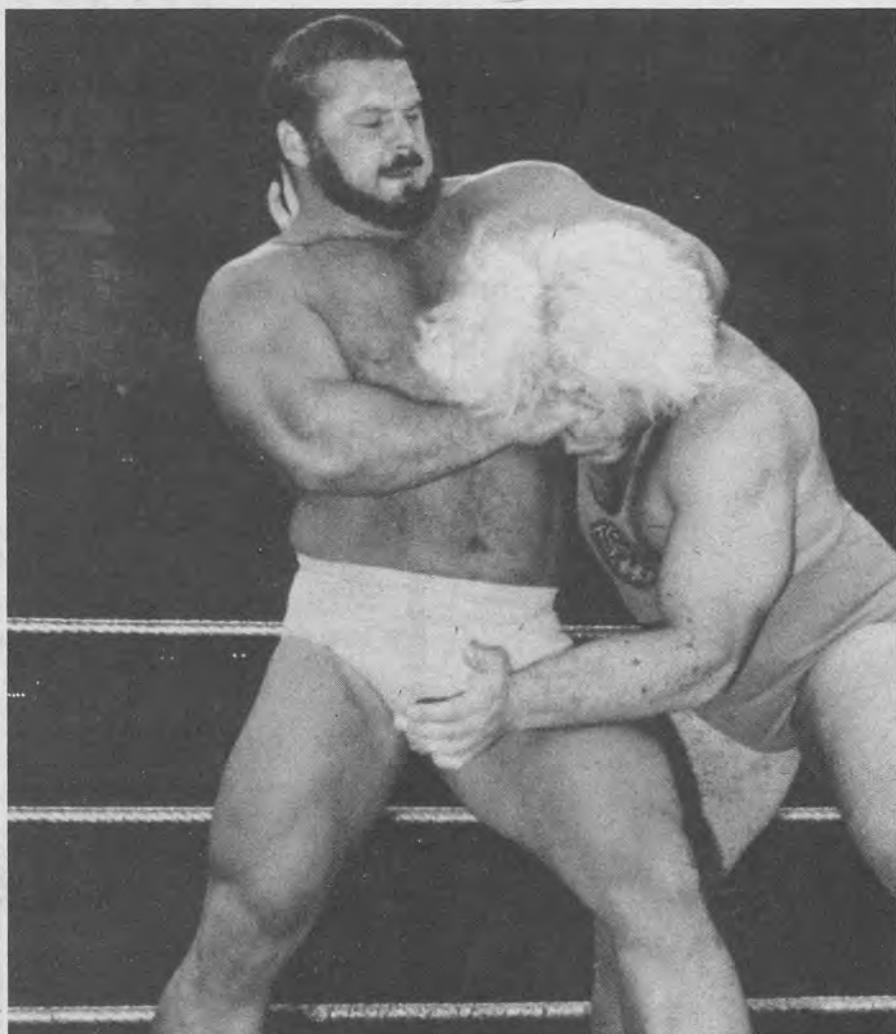
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ONE ON ONE

(Continued from Page 45)



Patera tastes Putski's powerful headlock (above). Ivan is able to match Patera for strength. After whipping Superstar Graham a few years ago, Putski wants the championship belt of the WWF (below). But the referee, citing a technicality, wouldn't let go.

face?

IP: Why are you the way you are?

KP: Who are you, Sigmund Freud?

IP: Who?

KP: Never mind, he never wrestled in your area.

IP: Oh.

KP: You want an answer. I take it you're referring to my style of wrestling.

IP: Who do you think I meant, your great aunt?

KP: I'll need Pepto-Bismol after this. I wrestle this way because it suits my personality. I don't want to be





Ken Patera struggles in a test of power. The former Olympic weightlifter is one of the strongest men in wrestling history.

restricted by stupid rules made by stupid little men. I want freedom to explore and try new and interesting maneuvers. I want to utilize my fullest potential. But piddling little morons like you can't grasp that.

IP: I don't believe you.

KP: You don't?

IP: No, you are brash on the outside, but inside, I think you are sad and lonely.

KP: Geez.

IP: You want to cover yourself up and keep people from befriending you. That's why you are the way you are. If you would only open up and see how wonderful the world is, Ken Patera would be a much happier man.

KP: Why don't you shove some wet chow mein up your left nostril, Putski?

IP: Someday you will see. □

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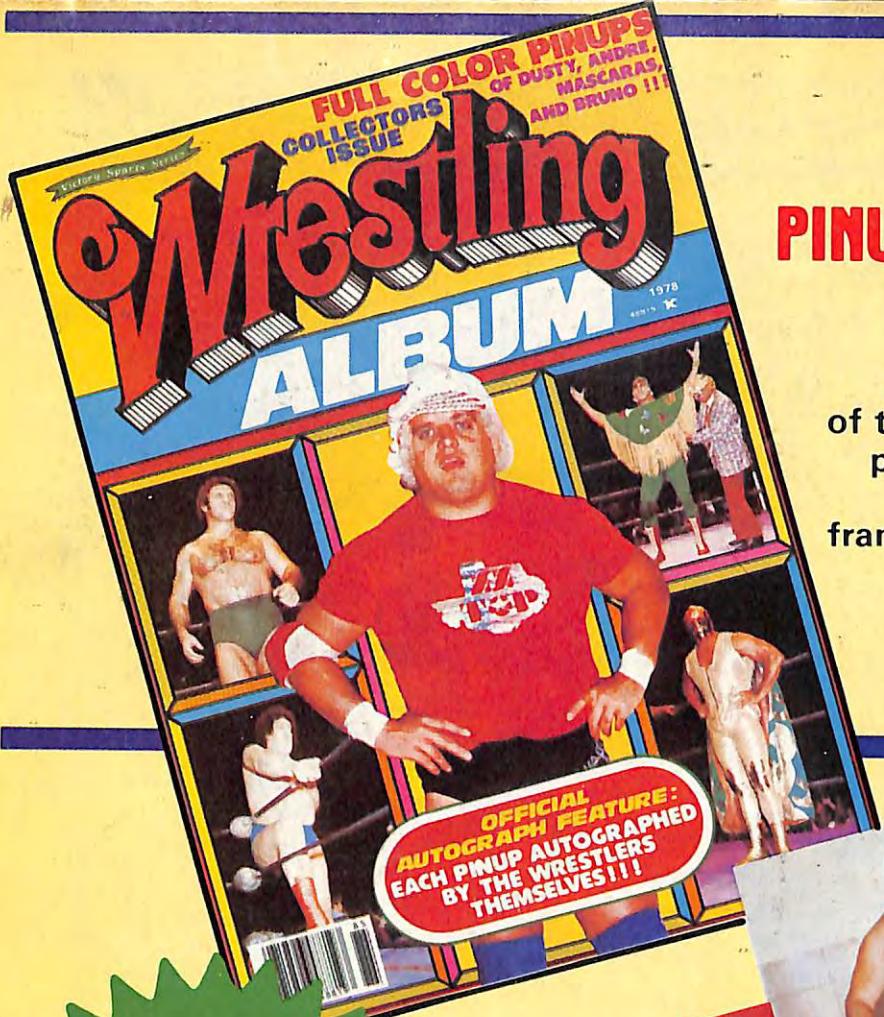
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